

March 4 Meeting

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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

sga, senator, campus, report, building, mott, questions, email, crenshaw, minutes, people, elections, advisor, desmond, senators, retreat, bellow, organization, interested, hearing

SPEAKERS

Amber Lemelle, VPLA LeBlanc, Senator Bellow, President of SAC, Senator Crenshaw, Senator Fretz, Joy Ballard, Senator Plasse, Senator Mott

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- V** VPLA LeBlanc 00:00
I call this meeting to order at 5:04pm. Okay. I do need to appoint a temporary parliamentarian at this time. Senator Bellow, would you mind just serving as a temporary parliamentarian?
- S** Senator Bellow 00:23
No problem.
- V** VPLA LeBlanc 00:25
Are there any objections? Okay, so moved. So Senator bellow. You just me and you will tackled the rules if there's any, any questions? Okay. All right. Senator Mott, you got the time, I'll call it out to you. Just a side note to you also, Senator Mott, the times are all also on the agendas. So you should you can use that too. All right. So, now we will get started. So when I call your names, let me know if you're here or not. Okay. ***Roll Call*** Okay, we have with the 11 out of 15 senators present we do meet quorum. We will move on to what's next on our agenda, which is the approval of the agenda. Does anyone have any see anything that needs to be corrected to the agenda? All right. Hearing none, it is so moved. Approval of the minutes that Advisor Ballard did send out February 10 minutes. That is the latest. Am I correct?

A Amber Lemelle 03:53
Yes, that's correct.

V VPLA LeBlanc 03:55
Thank you so much, and that our wonderful clerk of senate. Everyone should have been able to take a look at them briefly. Are there any corrections to the minutes? Hearing none, they are approved. Next, that's communications and announcements for anyone. Any senator. This is non SGA. related. You do have three minutes. Okay. Are there any non senator communications and announcements? This is not SGA. related. All right. We will move on to committee reports. governance, does governance have to report for us?

S Senator Mott 04:50
No report, sir.

V VPLA LeBlanc 04:51
Thank you. Senate rules. Senator Sarah Johnson is not here. Senator bellow. Is there a report from rules

S Senator Bellow 05:02
No report, sir.

V VPLA LeBlanc 05:04
Thank you. Okay. Senator Fretz, is there a report from finance for us?

S Senator Fretz 05:11
No report.

V VPLA LeBlanc 05:14
Thank you. Student Affairs does not have report on campus dining and housing. Do you ever report for us,



Senator Mott 05:23

I have a short one, we had a lovely open forum with the Residential Life staff yesterday and we had staff from both Pontchartrain halls and privateer place there. So we were able to get a lot of concerns that people had from both locations to the staff directly so they can respond to it. And they said, a big issue is that a lot of students don't come forward with the issues they have at these locations, so the staff doesn't know about them. So they are encouraging us to recommend that students fill out a maintenance request, every time something is broken, if something continues to be broken for 48 hours, find another request. So they can, they can have more than one documentation. And, and if your request is marked as complete, make sure if it's if it wasn't actually complete, you put in another one. We also had to talk about accountability and mask wearing because we still have some issues in both complexes with people not wearing masks and common spaces. But both complexes have systems to deal with that they have disciplinary procedures for people who continue to violate the mask wearing protocols. Other than that, I have some short announcements privateer place is going to be hiring RA's for next school year. So if you're interested in working as an RA at privateer place, they have info sessions next week, you can find more information on their Instagram page. For anybody you know who might be a graduate student or somebody who has a bachelor's degree in something similar to housing, they are hiring a new area coordinator for Pontchartrain Hall north. So if you're interested, if you know anyone who is interested in that you can pass along the news to them. And one more thing I have on next week, we're going to be having an open forum with Dining Services at 2pm on Tuesday.



VPLA LeBlanc 07:15

Thank you for that information, Senator Mott. So, unfortunately, I will have to do a ***unknown***. Can someone do me a favor and suspend Robert's Rules for a brief minute? With a proper second?



Senator Bellow 07:41

Senator Alex Bellow. I'll make a motion to suspend Robert's Rules of Order for a moment.



Senator Fretz 07:49

Senator Fretz graduate at large second



VPLA LeBlanc 07:53

Thank all of you. Okay, I have to go back up. There is an error in the minutes. That's why I

had to suspend it, because I knew we couldn't go back up like that. So there is an error in the minutes that I caught. Under VPLA Leblanc 8:31. They have Senator Sarah Johnson's remark under me. So if we just want to make a note about fixing that, that would be great. Just so that we wouldn't have any issues which we typically don't but just in case. Got it. All right. Now, guys, we went back into Robert's Rules, excuse me.



Senator Bellow 08:39

Senator Alex Bellow, I'll make a motion to restore Robert Robert's Rules of Order.



Senator Mott 08:47

Second, Senator Mott Jr. at large.



VPLA LeBlanc 08:51

I thank all of you. Okay, so we're back into Robert's Rules, officially. Now we're moving on to other reports.



Senator Mott 09:01

I yield the rest of my time for questions.



VPLA LeBlanc 09:06

Okay does anyone have any questions for senator Mott at this time? Okay, hearing none, we'll move along. Other reports, Madame president is not in but she did want me to include something, which is SGA elections are approaching if anyone is interested in President, Vice President, Vice President of Legislative Affairs. Please let me, Jullianne, Joy, Jason and myself know as we all know, a senator has to be a VPLA. You can find out All of the qualifications in the Constitution. And so if you have any questions about anything, please reach out to me. And we can, you know, make sure that you guys, if anybody's interested, I hope someone's interested in the vpla position. You know, hope so. Okay, so next. That is the President's report. If you have any questions for her, everybody has her email, please let her know. Next, we will move along to the Vice President's report. is vice president Jayson in? I don't think so. Okay, and the next report is vice president of Legislative Affairs, that's me. I don't have a report today, guys. Oh, wait, I'm sorry, I do. We updated all of the all of the committee's. I will let everybody know everything via email, I literally had to kind of wipe the slate clean a little and kind of start over. Since we've lost over 50% of Senate, unfortunately. So I will let you guys know where you are, particularly

everybody is still in their same committees. Some may not be, I will reach out to you to let you know. If you have a problem with that, just reach out to me, we can try to work something out. Um, so far, we have a total of 15 senators, which is okay, but I do want to stress, trying to recruit in your colleges as much as possible. I know it is kind of difficult. I'm going to reach out to the President, as well as in our university president during our meetings to let them know about reaching out to the teachers to make the announcement that, yes, we do have a functioning SGA that has plenty of open seats for our students. And hopefully that could kind of get us some some headway. I do know that COVID-19 has put a damper on a lot of folks when it comes to responsibilities, changing schools, you know, etc, etc. So I can do nothing but understand everybody's circumstances, but we would hate to see you go. So nobody else, please. Nobody else resign. Thank you. And that is the rest of my report. That is it for my report. Are there any questions? I yield the rest of my time? Okay, hearing none, we will move along to the Vice President of programming and the president of SAC Eric is here.

P

President of SAC 12:55

Oh, Eric SAC president. So my report, last week, SAC went to NACA virtually, was good. We made a lot of we made a lot of we looked at a lot of events things are bringing to campus. This weekend. On the fifth we have our women's retreat. It's gonna be really nice. There's a lot of things to talk about a lot of things to do. If you want to attend, please sign up through the link in our Instagram, UNO SAC. then next week, we have a St Patrick's Jeopardy on zoom. And that's all I yield my time for questions.

V

VPLA LeBlanc 13:42

All right, thank you for that. Eric. Are there any questions for the president of SAC at this time? Okay, you get a fun paint kit at the woman's retreat. Great. Hearing none, we will move along to the advisor advisor ballard do you have a report for us.

J

Joy Ballard 14:11

I do right. So, I am back in the office we are getting in the swing of things. Welcome to UNO phase three, whatever that means. But what I will say about this, we will be doing a few more things in person and I am in the office more. So if you need something, swing by talk to me make it worth my time that I'm here. I would love to see your happy faces. On that note, here are some things that are going on. First of all, budget requests are out. So for those of you who don't know, the majority of the SGA budget is split through something we call a budget request process. student organizations can put in a request for money Just because you are on SGA does not mean that other organizations you are

members of cannot put in budget request. As a matter of fact, you can write them for them. We have a pretty extensive budget, there's lots of things not happening because of COVID. And so our numbers are just down. As with all state budgets, if you don't spend money, eventually you lose money. So that being said, if you know of an organization that wants to host an event, whatever your organization is, we can help you we have funding. So yeah, spread the word tell everybody, you know, to put in an SGA budget request. Elections are coming up. As Desmond said, in Juliannes report, the Vice President, the SGA, are both up for election as well as all of your Senate seats, you have to rerun to keep your senate seat. So even if you don't want to run for higher office, you will need to file to run for it to keep your current position if you would like VPLA elections happen through a senate process, but you have to run for your senate seat to be eligible to run for VPLA. So don't forget, I'm going to send y'all reminders. But be on the lookout for that it's really important that you rerun for your seat. One thing Eric talked about NACA, one of the things that I loved about NACA, in addition to all of the wonderful programming is I was able to talk to an organization that does climate surveys for organizations. So basically what they do is they will come in, they will run focus groups with members of your organization as well as former members of your organization. They will take a look at all of your governing documents and all of those things, read through them and basically give you a report on how you're doing. How equitable are you? Are you reaching people? Why are people quitting?



Senator Mott 17:18

That's time. I apologize. It's okay.



Senator Bellow 17:24

Alex Bellow, motion to extend time for our advisor report.



Senator Plasse 17:31

Linda plasse junior at large motion seconded.



VPLA LeBlanc 17:35

Motion carries, please reset the timer for six minutes. It's fine. You know what we already called it. So I got six more minutes, because we already did it. So haha. Okay, anyway, they'll do a climate survey, they will probably tell your advisor to stop making jokes about you. But that's fine, too. Um, anyway, I'm getting some quotes, I would love to see that be something that's in it looked into doing, because I think it would be really helpful for the

organization. I also think this is a year that y'all have extra money. So if we ever had a year that we can invest in ourselves, it's now. So if anybody's interested in that, let me know. I am interested. But if y'all aren't, it's cool. I have a very big announcement. Y'all are the first to hear about it. Leadership Retreat is happening virtually. Desmond looks like this is going to be a very exciting announcement. It wasn't I'm sorry. Um, but leadership retreat is going to be great. So leadership retreat is a 30 year tradition, at UNO, it is something that we do every year. And it's the only retreat that we put on that is not tied to your organization. So you will not get any SGA credit for coming. But what you will get is you will learn a lot. We have some awesome guest speakers. We have an escape room booked. Who doesn't want to do an escape room? virtually. It's gonna be a lot of fun. It is March 26. And 27th. Write it down, put it on your calendars. I promise you don't want to miss it. if for no other reason that I'm just so excited and I want to be there. It's gonna be fun. All right. That's my report. I'll end on a high note. It's gonna be fun. All right. I yield my time for questions. Since I have some time. I do have a question. This is VP LA. Did you say the time from the 26th and 27th?



Joy Ballard 19:52

Yes, it will begin at three o'clock on the 26th and then it will be from 10 until till five on the 27th. So it is kind of like an all day thing.



VPLA LeBlanc 20:08

also I have another question Desmond Leblanc has the vice president to talked to you anything about this? This springs SGA retreat, since I know this Leadership Retreat doesn't count, or does it count for?



Joy Ballard 20:24

It doesn't count. We haven't talked about it. I'm gonna make a note and I will follow up with y'all.



VPLA LeBlanc 20:30

All right, thank you.



Senator Bellow 20:31

Senator Alex Bellow, interdisciplinary services. Didn't. So we just had a retreat in in January, wasn't that the spring retreat?

- V** VPLA LeBlanc 20:43
It could count. If you went to that you do get credit for it. We normally do like a one day make up in case somebody missed it and once because it is required that you do one. But did any of y'all not go to retreat?
- S** Senator Bellow 21:01
I've been to two
- S** Senator Mott 21:04
I've been to quite a few of them.
- V** VPLA LeBlanc 21:07
Im going to check my records and figure it out. We will follow up. I don't know why I was expecting one to happen.
- J** Joy Ballard 21:17
normally the Senate's bigger. So there's always somebody that just didn't do it. But I'll check my records. I'll follow up. If we need to plan one. We'll plan one.
- V** VPLA LeBlanc 21:28
Any other questions for the advisor at this?
- S** Senator Crenshaw 21:30
Senator Crenshaq College of biological sciences ,when is like the start of elections?
- V** VPLA LeBlanc 21:38
That is a fantastic question. Election filing start on Monday, but then you have a week to fill out your paperwork. And then campaigning is the next week. And I'm looking for a calendar. Anyway, the end of the next week's elections, I will drop it in the chat.
- S** Senator Crenshaw 22:02

Thank you.



VPLA LeBlanc 22:03

Thank you. Are there any other questions for the advisor? Hearing none, we will move along. Thank you for that advisor ballard. Alright, so we don't have any old business, new business, no nominations and appointments, we will move to open forum and it is 12 minutes on the clock. And this is anything for the betterment of SGA I did have to start with something. But if anybody else needed to say something feel free While I try to remember, I thought I wrote it down. So Brendan Mott Jr. at large.



Senator Mott 22:37

I have a point, it's not really a large just bit of like information are something that I think we could start necessarily, but I give campus tours now with admissions and something we advertise is that all of our buildings on campus are mapped down to a tee with Google Maps. But I took a look at those maps. And those maps are actually very outdated. It still says the admissions office is in the is in the administration building, and it has like things in one locations. So is that is there a way that could ever be updated? So like it actually can show you where you actually need to go on campus for something.



VPLA LeBlanc 23:14

What I do know is when anybody if there's ever any emergency, or if a campus release always is escorts the fire department in the ambulance and the police if they need to come on here. But as far as any other buildings are regular folks, I think that would take somebody contacting Google. about that.



Joy Ballard 23:38

Um, I have some connections in the orientation department. I think at least we either need to fix it or stop advertising that it's accurate. Right. Like, I think one of those two things needs to happen. Yes, preferably fixing it. But I can. I'll ask around



Senator Mott 23:56

Brendan Mott Jr. at large. It's not that not only that, we say that you can go and Google Maps and say like how to get to a building but it's specific. We specifically say oh, you can type in room 112 liberal arts building, and it'll take you right to that room. I don't think that is true. Like and they have interior maps on Google Maps of all the buildings, but it's not

that specific.



Senator Crenshaw 24:21

Crenshaw college of biological sciences, don't we have like an alumni who like works at Google?



VPLA LeBlanc 24:29

I'm sure we do.



Senator Crenshaw 24:30

They spotlighted her like an email, like because she was doing a scholarship for computer engineering, I believe. And they were like, Oh, yeah, they were like, Oh, we have an alumni who's like the VP of Google something.



VPLA LeBlanc 24:52

I'm sure somebody knows this person and can get in contact with them. We can do some research on this. thank you for that Senator Crenshaw. Desmond Leblanc VPLA, I do have two things that I need to discuss with you guys. I'm gonna start with this. A senator did bring up to me the question about resolution. And and I totally we don't do them often. But if anybody has anything that they want to work on as far as the resolution, or bill, and you need some help, or you have any questions about if we could do this, please let me know. I believe our bills and resolutions are updated on the website. If they are not just reach out to me, I can get any, whatever specific bill that you're, if you know what it is that we passed, I can get it to you. Or if you don't, and you feel like we did do something to that magnitude, just let me know, I can try to find out. Also, I have a specific senator, I'm not gonna call any names. I'm just gonna say senator, who is very adamant about us marketing. I agree with them wholeheartedly. I'm just going to throw out there that one of the recommendations or options that we do have is possibly hiring someone for SGA marketing, hiring a student for marketing. We have these opportunities, they give us this money to use guys. And as you all know, if we don't, we haven't spent anything this semester, but the exception of \$2,000. So as a result, all that money is going to roll into reserves. And like our wonderful senator fretz who will be leaving us, as well as me, but who will be leaving us, she has been very adamant on getting the correct numbers. We don't want any more money going away, you know, surprisingly. So there are different things that we can do to work on getting more hype, for lack of a better term for Senate. If anybody has any questions about that, please reach out to me, I have been getting some

feedback on that. Also, the amphitheatre documents are in the SGA office, I did give it to the student worker, I am usually in there on Tuesdays from 10am to 2pm. And Wednesdays from 10am to 3pm. I couldn't go this week at a bunch of doctor's appointments to go to. Nevertheless, usually I am going to be in there as well going forward. So if you need to see those while I'm there, let me know. If im not there, please just email me that you are going and you would like to see those documents, I can definitely let the student worker know to get them for you. No, you cannot take them with you. But you are free to take pictures. That is the only copies that I have. I have not been able to contact those senators, as well as Professor Griffith who is the person who's leading that information just because of school and my full time job. But I promise I will get to it soon. hopefully within the next week or two. We should have some more information on that. That's it for me. Anyone else?

S Senator Crenshaw 28:38

Thank you, Crenshaw College of Senator College of biological science. I had an idea for like a resolution slash bill. But I wasn't really sure about it. And so I just asked Now, like I wanted to work on like a campus like beautification bill, because there's like a, there's like a lot of things that I've seen around campus and that a lot of like my constituents, and probably a lot of y'all have seen, like, a couple like things on campus could use like a good power washing, as well as, I don't know, some flowers or something. Because it's like, UNO it's like, you know, the college representation of the city and the city is very vibrant and very lively. And oftentimes the university like models are prison. And I feel like that's very depressing, like, you know, very like dull and, you know, just dry colors. And it doesn't No, no Hear me out. There have been studies linked to psychological you know, effects of certain colors and it's just like, when you're constantly you know, they have grass, but a lot of places have grass but grass doesnt do anything for my depression. It's just like, you know, a little more, you know, a little more color, like some flowers, some, you know, some and then it's always flooding around campus, so why not plant flowers, especially It'll help with the fun because plants love water. So it's just like, you know, it's just stuff like that. And it's just like, but I'm not really sure how we'll go about that I mentioned it to a couple to a couple, like, you know, other senators who a lot of them aren't here anymore. And they were talking about like partnering with like the gardening club, but it's just like, it's a lot of stuff that's happening right now. And I wasn't sure if this was like appropriate, because it's just like there's a pandemic going on. And it's like, this is really important right now. So I want to get some feedback. I'm done.

S Senator Bellow 30:33

Senator Alex Bellow, you know, I would definitely stand in support with you, Senator

Crenshaw, because I do agree that the campus can benefit from some vibrancy. You know, I'm over here, I was a student there in 1992, when it kind of looks the same. And so I would definitely support that deal. And despite the pandemic, I think, because of the pandemic, we all need pick me up. And, you know, walking onto a campus that's beautiful and attractive, I believe, can serve that purpose. So I agree with you, Senator Crenshaw,



31:12



Senator Mott 31:15

Brendan Mott Jr. at large. It's really funny because I literally wanted to bring up the exact same thing. I guess great minds think alike, or something. Because I've been like thinking about the bill. A lot of the buildings on campus have a lot of dirt on them. And they could use like a big like, pressure washer on the outside. Some of the sidewalks are really gross as well. I feel like we could use more arts campuses green, we have a lot of green space, but not a lot of plants to complement said green space. So I definitely agree with everything you're saying. The only thing I've been thinking about is when we pass maybe some kind of Bill will be worked with facilities is there's some type of ground service on campus. That's my only questions about that.



Joy Ballard 32:00

This is Joy, the advisor I'm sorry, Amber, I can get y'all in contact with the correct people. If y'all will shoot me an email so that I see it first thing in the morning, if I don't see it, I will forget I am old. But if y'all email me, I will get in contact with you. And I can get you all the contact info. I know that all of those things have cost associated. Deborah can get that list. But I like it I think it's a good cause. Just need to get in touch with the right people also know that the former facilities company donated flowers. So we might could work out an agreement to like match. Like if we pay for this then y'all can so I don't know if there's room for discussion, I would say that the discussion needs to happen before writing a bill but I will get in contact with those people who want to Desmond VPLA I also would be in support of this. I definitely also know that they had selected and I literally set it at the engineering building does need a good pressure washing. It's getting to be, that green is starting to become black. So yeah, I don't know if we need to fund it, but I'm sure we did. The administration would not be opposed to that. So yeah, other than that, I'm done. Are there any Is there anything else for the betterment of SGA



Senator Mott 33:39

I can further your point Brendan Mott Jr. at large. It's not even just engineering building like I know that area of campus flooded during Katrina so there's a lot of green that's turning black from that but I know that like if you go to the liberal arts building and go on the balconies, you'll see all like the all the dirt and stuff like all in on the tops of the balconies and in the light fixtures under the library breezeway as well so it's it's definitely more than just the engineering building.



VPLA LeBlanc 34:04

I do have a question, Desmond Leblanc VPLA. That building right across the street from geology and psychology Yeah. That building right across the street from it that's next to the cove What is that? It looks creepy.



Senator Mott 34:25

Brendan Mott Jr, at large. It's the it's the old facility services filtering they don't really use it for the offices for that department anymore though. I believe there's I don't know exactly what is in there though.



Senator Crenshaw 34:40

Senator Crenshaw college of biological sciences I was saying like we need to do an overhaul or just like everything. I feel like we need to take account of a lot of things that have been on campus and we need to like, you know, spice it up a little bit. Like even a memorial for like the Katrina Memorial



Senator Mott 34:57

this that's time that I'm going to do another motion To extend time, Brendan Mott Jr. at large.



Senator Crenshaw 35:06

seconded Senator Crenshaw college of biological sciences second,



VPLA LeBlanc 35:14

motion carries, please reset the clock for 12 minutes.



Senator Crenshaw 35:17

I was saying even like, the memorial thing is like a fountain or like a statue for Katrina, it's like something. And it's just like, it's very much like, run down. And it's just like, there are a lot of things on campus that I feel like are supposed to be a representation of the city. And it's just like, there, it could, you know, do with a lot of like changes, and I think there's a lot of stuff that people don't really pay attention to, because you know, going from class to class, sometimes I'd be rushing. When I'm sitting there and doing homework at the library, or just in the grass, it's just like, you notice a lot of stuff. You know, we have a couple of trees, but I feel like the campus as a whole would benefit from just the beauty that a bill like this could bring, especially with the campus spirit, because it's is lacking. I feel like if we, you know, if we started doing stuff like this on a large scale, you know, things that people could tangibly see, I think they reflect very good on like, SGA as well, cuz it's just like, Oh, this is what I could do if I get an SGA. Let me join, you know, they really got stuff going on with that. I'm Done



VPLA LeBlanc 36:32

Crenshaw, do you live on campus?



Senator Crenshaw 36:36

No, but I used to sit on campus every day for like, 12 hours.



VPLA LeBlanc 36:43

Are you able to come to campus at some point?



Senator Crenshaw 36:46

Oh, yeah. Could



VPLA LeBlanc 36:49

Let's get together next Wednesday, during my office hours, I'll give you an exact time via email. And let's walk around campus a little bit just to get an eye view on everything. If anybody other senators would like to join, please just email me Yes, Eric SAC is more than welcome to come.



Senator Crenshaw 37:08

I'm very open to that because I'm a graphic designer and I said in the chat like I'm like, I can make some mock like, you know, designs to get a visual representation of where everything would go and stuff like that. Like I love interior decorating and architecture and all of that stuff. So I'm very much interested.



VPLA LeBlanc 37:27

Yeah, well, let's go ahead and do that. And anybody else that wants to join any senators they want to join, just shoot me an email, we'll do a chain email, and I'll let you all know an exact time. We will be having on our mask. So yeah. Anything else on this? If not, I don't mind entertain a motion to adjourn. Um, does anyone have anything else to say?



Senator Plasse 37:52

Motion to adjourn. Linda Plasse



Senator Fretz 37:57

Second Senator Fretz graduate at large.



VPLA LeBlanc 38:00

Are there any objections? Hearing none, motion carries it. I now adjourn this meeting at 5:42pm. You guys have a great rest of your day. Senator Plasse I will be emailing you, as well as senator Mott and Senator Fretz. So I got y'all. Okay. All right. Thank you.