

April 28 Meeting

Mon, 6/7 3:03PM 27:33

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

sga, people, meetings, email, nominate, questions, senator, nominations, report, talking, week, table, lair, crenshaw, college, brendan, discuss, social media, open forum, engineering

SPEAKERS

Senator Callahan, Senator Crenshaw, Senator Mott, Senator Clotilde Lair, President Romero, Senator Fretz, Joy Ballard, Senator Plasse, Senator Bellow

-
- S** Senator Plasse 01:55
So I'm going to call this meeting to order at 5:04pm. See, I see we have our President pro tempore but we do not have a parliamentarian right now. Senator Bellow, would you mind stepping in as parliamentarian as needed for today?
 - S** Senator Bellow 03:44
It shall be my pleasure, madam.
 - S** Senator Plasse 03:47
Thank you very much. Thank you. All right, we're gonna move on to roll call joy, if you wouldn't mind.
 - J** Joy Ballard 03:58
I got Y'all ***Roll Call*** with eight out of 13 present. We do meet quorum.
 - S** Senator Plasse 05:12
All right, we will move on to the approval of the agenda. Are there any corrections or

changes that anyone Notice for today's agenda? All right, hearing none, we can move on. It was emailed out last night, everyone should have been able to look over them. So with no objections to the agenda is approved. We'll move on to the approval of the minutes. But I believe the last minutes we received were from March 4, which has already been approved. So we should be all squared away there. Alright, moving right along. We will go ahead to communications and announcements. Do we have any non senator communications or announcements for today? Alright, moving on. Are there any non sga related communications or announcements? Hearing none, we will move on right to committee reports. See, I don't our rules committee head is not here today. So is governance here today? Does the governance committee have a report? All right. Student Affairs. That's me. There's no report for Student Affairs today. Does the finance committee have a report?



Senator Fretz 06:38

Haley Fretz graduate at large, I don't have an official report this week. But I'm happy to be present today. I got out of the class early. Yay. So nice to see all of you. I'm either hopefully going to be present again next week and have just a small summary of what happened this past semester and maybe a little bit for the full year for me. It hopefully that'll be in person. If not, it'll be read by vplas desmond leblanc. So I yield the rest of my time for questions.



Senator Plasse 07:14

Thank you, Senator Fretz. Any questions for finance committee? All right, then we will keep moving along to executive. Oh, my bad I miss the ad hoc committee. Do we have an on campus and dining and housing report? Sorry, Brendan.



Senator Mott 07:31

We do not. But can I have a motion to go back to governance because I accidentally didn't.



Senator Plasse 07:37

Right. Do we have a motion to go back?



Senator Bellow 07:40

Second, the motion.

S Senator Plasse 07:42
All right. Go ahead Thank you. Okay, Brandon.

S Senator Mott 07:48
Okay, so I'm actually I'm working on a small little campus project since from the Friendship Circle thing we weren't able to work out. I did manage to get in contact with the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts to actually do a mini beautification project, on the back courtyard. And the Assistant Dean is very happy to have given me some information. And I'm writing a bill at this time. So hopefully, we can have a bill for our last meeting next week. And I yield the rest of the time for questions.

S Senator Plasse 08:21
All right, thank you. Do we have any questions for the governance committee? Great. Hearing none, we'll move on to executive and advisor reports. Madam President, do you have a report for today?

P President Romero 08:33
I have a short one. Sorry, if my voice is kind of raspy, my asthma has been really bad. So just an update, we've been having a lot of transition meetings lately. So it's been a lot of the new elected president and vice president have been coming to our one on ones on our meetings with administration. So they've all been introduced next week, I believe will be the inauguration for those people. So that'll be my last day. Sad Tear Tear. But other than that, we don't really have anything. Just make sure you check your emails, if you're graduating, they send out emails pertaining to graduation and when your dates are, and how many people can come everyone was allowed four tickets. And there's rules for that. gotta be the same household yada yada. And also, you have to be matched the whole time. But not we will have in person graduation, which is great. I just had got the email last week after I emailed in my report for last week because I said I will update y'all then I got the update right with us in it and I was like, well, that's great. Anyway, I don't have anything else. I'm probably gonna say this again next week, but it's been really great working with y'all. Y'all have been a great senate this year. And y'all are just awesome people, and I'm going to be so sad to leave. Um, if y'all have any questions for me, or any concerns, I'll yield my time now.

- S** Senator Plasse 10:17
Right. Thank you. Any questions for the president? All right, is the vice president here today? Does anyone know if we have a report for him? All right. Um, there is no vpla report for today. Let's see. The Vice President of programming is also not here. But I know that sec Carnival is going on at this moment. So he is taking care of that. So we will skip straight to the advisor report. Joy, Do you have any report for us today?
- J** Joy Ballard 10:50
I really don't, there's not a lot happening. Um, transition meetings are going on, you know, just wrapping up the year. So please be here next week. I do want to make sure we do a proper send off, and I'm excited to see what y'all are gonna do. So yeah, no, nothing else says Do you have any questions for me? Great. Thank you.
- S** Senator Plasse 11:19
All right. There was no old business on the agenda. So we'll just move on. Alright, so we're gonna move on to new business, we actually do have some new business today. Um, we are going to be calling for nominations for the Vice President of Legislative Affairs today. And today's just the nominations. It's not voting. It's not the candidates talking or anything. This is just straight up nominations. So does anyone have any nominations for vplas? And you can nominate yourself also
- S** Senator Clotilde Lair 11:54
clotilde lair College of Engineering. Can I nominate myself?
- S** Senator Plasse 11:58
You certainly can. Alright anyone else. I will also be nominating myself Linda Plasse current Jr. at large. Present VPLA currently. Do we have anyone else?
- S** Senator Mott 12:14
I also nominate myself Brendon Mott Jr. at large.
- S** Senator Plasse 12:19
All right. Did we have any other nominations for today?

S Senator Crenshaw 12:22
And what can I nominate somebody right? Or is it just like I nominate myself type thing.

S Senator Plasse 12:27
Now you can nominate other people as well.

S Senator Crenshaw 12:29
Crenshaw on how senator College of biological sciences. I nominate coltilda Yeah.

S Senator Plasse 12:38
All right. Thank you.

S Senator Callahan 12:40
Lane Callahan, Senator of the College of Engineering. I also nominate coltilda.

S Senator Plasse 12:47
Alright, we got nominations for coltilda. Myself and Brendan, did we have anyone else? If not, we will keep moving along. This is gonna be a short meeting today, y'all. We're already an open forum. So right now we have open forum 12 minutes to discuss matters pertaining to the betterment of SGA. Did we have anything to discuss today?

J Joy Ballard 13:10
I would like to add Before we go further, this is Joy the advisor. For next week, that will be a secret ballot vote between the three of you so I will have the three of you on a electronic ballot that I will send out and everyone in the senate can vote during the meeting. So yeah, that's all that'll work. So it won't be like a usual out loud thing, but just so y'all know. That's it.

S Senator Plasse 13:37
Thank you. Alright, anything to discuss for open forum today? If not, I will entertain a motion to adjourn very early.

S Senator Crenshaw 13:54
Crenshaw Senator College of biological science. I was gonna ask because I know a lot of people including me, myself included, were talking about you know, like promotion and you know, how we kinda is gonna get SGA name out there like for like next semester cuz I know we like when I first joined I believe my 40 members. And now it's only like, really like 15 or eight of us at a time. And I was just wondering like, if any body or you know if anybody was had any idea working on how we would want to recruit more people for like the fall.

S Senator Clotilde Lair 14:39
coltilde lair College of Engineering. Can we table next semester? Go on in front of the library, just table

J Joy Ballard 14:49
as of now, yes. It I mean, I cannot guarantee you what next semester is gonna look like but right now you can table

S Senator Plasse 15:00
Linda plasse Jr. at large. Also, we've put in the budget committee meetings we've been talking about, like seeing if we have room for more marketing supplies and things and like bringing in people to the team to help us market as well. So there are things that like we're prepping for to help tabling and marketing become more like accessible in the fall. So we are kind of like working on some things budget wise, in addition to everything that we've been talking about in SGA, already.

S Senator Fretz 15:28
Our question about the budget meetings now they've been going is permitted?

S Senator Plasse 15:36
I believe so, Joy?

J Joy Ballard 15:39
That's Fine.

- S** Senator Fretz 15:40
Okay. Hello, Fretz graduate at large. Did you guys adjust the numbers that we did for travel fund? And what that looks like? i know, that was something that I was going to be said to not either return to what it was, or at least get attention because of the pandemic. Just curious.
- S** Senator Plasse 15:58
I believe we left the travel fund kind of as is for now. We did readjust a lot of the numbers because things were decreased for COVID. For a lot of obvious reasons. we have been readjusting budgets and stuff. But I believe the travel expense remained at the amount it wasn't trying to pull it up. But of course, now my technology is not cooperating.
- S** Senator Fretz 16:33
That's okay. Well, I guess I said this the, probably the beginning of the semester. And I might have asked again last year, I know that we have joy for some time, and that we're working on new advisors and stuff like that, just want to put it out into the atmosphere that in the future, I'd love to see. Obviously, I won't actually be seeing it. But for my fellow future students that will go back to what it was because we are hopeful that the world goes back to normal and that kids can take advantage of that again. Thanks, guys. ,
- S** Senator Plasse 17:04
Yeah, absolutely. Thank you for bringing that up. If ever y'all have questions about the budget committee meetings, also y'all can shoot some of us an email or just talk about it in open forum moving along. Because that's not like a big secret we're keeping or anything I promise
- S** Senator Clotilde Lair 17:20
Clotilde Lair college of engineering. going back to our previous topic about like marketing and stuff is, is sga able to like hold events that we do ourselves.
- J** Joy Ballard 17:41
Yes, you can.



Senator Crenshaw 17:45

Crenshaw College of biological science, like when you say like being able to host events we talked about like, like a block party, a meet and greet? Like what's the level



Senator Fretz 18:01

Fretz graduate at large I really think we could do whatever we wanted as long as we got the right approval and that it was for all students and all student body and obviously under the situation. Respected all COVID guidelines within reason we can do just about anything we want. I think



Senator Mott 18:22

Brendan Mott Jr. at large would a partnership with I mean, SEC is a branch of SGA I think a lot of people forget that what if during sec events we had like a table or like representatives from Senate or something like that to talk about that or something



Senator Clotilde Lair 18:40

Clotilde Lair College of Engineering although I think that would be awesome. I'm not sure how many people would approach the tables because I know I've seen tables out for like multiple things but I don't feel encouraged to go up to them. I think if we throw like a funny event where you can get to know the senators and that way if if they want to they can talk about Senate would be easier.



Senator Crenshaw 19:08

Crenshaw, Senate of biological science I agree with that, like the tabling like I've done tabling before for like previous organizations before COVID started for like PBS and stuff like that. Like you know when we did the trunk or treat and when we you know we're trying to recruit more people and it it was like you know, we would have a couple of people who were like you know interested and but then there will be more people that were like you know, they look like they was interested it but they were kind of like scared to come to the table. And that's why I think we should like um, we should focus a lot on not just like the in-person I'm not just on the in person table and promotion and stuff but also on like, you know, like reaching out to students via like social media cuz I feel like social media has become this massive use form of just like, there's a lot of potential to reach more people if we do it on social media, because even if you don't necessarily come to school, we have like super good promotion through like email, social media and stuff like that, it'll will reach more people.

S Senator Fretz 20:29

we have access to our social media account, we just need to produce the work and get it to joy. So if there is something that you want a message to the student body about joining, feel free to work on those items and get them over to her and she can help advise you on how to get them on there. We also have access to our president who has access to sending out an email masse wide. So if you guys want to draft an email and make sure that it looks great, we can also send those out too. So we definitely have access to take advantage of those social media market platforms that y'all are discussing now. And if you need help, I'm here for a little longer in SGA, and I can do my best to assist you. But hopefully, that gives you a little bit of insight and gives you the tools to maybe work on that stuff for this summer and this fall.

S Senator Mott 21:21

So one of the issues that I've seen, like we've run into at social media is that, um, I don't know if it's just because of COVID. And people don't want to come to zoom events. But I know that I personally made advertisements for our Housing and Dining ad hoc meetings, and I set those president Romero and they were sent up. We've advertised and it doesn't seem like people actually show up. Um, and also, I feel like if we send too many emails, people are just gonna start deleting them, and not reading them at all. So that is kind of the issue we run into, like, maybe we just send an email that's about something super, super big we're doing. But we don't want to send an email like every two days, because then everyone will be like, well, I don't want to read a sga emails.

S Senator Clotilde Lair 22:16

Coltilde Lair College of Engineering. I, I feel that that's correct. But I also feel like SGA doesn't seem like relatable organization. I feel like we have this whole formal appearance, which we kind of do. But I don't think that we look like a fun organization to be in which I think we are to be honest, but we don't show ourselves as such.

S Senator Plasse 22:51

I definitely agree with what you're saying. But I think especially once we get more in person, I think people will be a little less afraid of coming out. I know a lot of people have zoom fatigue and like sitting all day in zoom lectures, and then being told, like, Oh, you can come to another zoom meeting for fun doesn't sound that appealing. And I know when I've like talked about SGA with a lot of people, they say like, Oh, well just sounds like

a lot of work. It's a big time commitment, which honestly, it really isn't. So I think like maximizing the different platforms for advertisement, like emails, and then like printed flyers, and then social media. And also like, I think our best form of marketing is honestly just like the work we do. So like, as we start producing more bills and resolutions and like actually impacting campus and like impacting our students lives, I think that they'll see like, we do a lot more than just like, sit in a stuffy room and have meetings, which I think is what people think SGA is. So hopefully moving forward, we will have like all of these different platforms where they can actually see what we do versus like, just assuming what we do, if that makes sense.

S Senator Clotilde Lair 23:53

Clotilde Lair College of Engineering. Do we advertise the bills that we passed because I think that would be a good thing to do if we don't already.

S Senator Plasse 24:03

Linda Plasse Jr at large I know when we were talking about the beautification bill we had said like if we do go through with all of that we would also put like a plaque or something like sga did that and I think like even aside from like a physical thing like that we could post on social media like this is what we've passed recently. This is what we're working on and like um, people don't seem to come to the open forums but maybe we could use utilize the like Instagram questions features kind of stuff before I did that when I was like promoting more being a senator and like asking juniors what they want to talk about and I actually got more responses than I thought I would so I think maybe also utilizing that to hear students voices would work.

S Senator Bellow 24:46

time.

S Senator Crenshaw 24:48

Motion to extend needed by 10 minutes crenshaw college of biological sciences,

S Senator Clotilde Lair 24:56

seconded Clotilde College of Engineering.

S Senator Plasse 25:00
it will be 12 minutes, not 10 minutes. That's the only extension, but continue.

S Senator Fretz 25:06
Fretz graduate at large, all of these ideas sound really great. And they sound like something like an ad hoc committee like how we added on Brendan's for Student Housing and Dining. So that just as an advice for the future, maybe this summer in this fall, that could be a committee that is implemented in all these ideas that we've discussed tonight can be pushed to tuition through that. Just push them that's what this all sounds like to me. So just pushing that out there.

S Senator Bellow 25:36
Alex bellow IDs, I want to I want to circle back to the vPLA nominations, and I'm trying to understand the voting. So will we have introductions of each candidate before we vote? Or is this Can somebody joy? Can you explain what's happening? on that process, please?

J Joy Ballard 25:59
I can. Um, so the way it works is today, we announced the three candidates by nomination. So you have a week, if you have like specific questions that you want to email to any of them, and they should get back to you. Next week, we will have introductions, they will each have a chance to like give a little spiel, say something nice. And then we'll vote and there will be time to ask them questions in public as well. But we do the nominations a week ahead of time. So if you like have anything pressing, you can figure it out before.

S Senator Bellow 26:31
Got it. Thank you.

J Joy Ballard 26:35
No problem.

S Senator Plasse 26:44
All right. Does anyone have anything else to discuss an open forum? If not, I will entertain

a motion to adjourn.



Senator Mott 26:54

Motion to adjourn brendan mott Jr. at large



Senator Clotilde Lair 26:57

Seconded Clotilde Lair college of engineering.



Senator Plasse 27:02

I adjourn this meeting at 5:28pm and I hope you'll have a great rest of your day.