

# April 21 Meeting





Mon, 6/7 3:04PM 56:36

## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

students, sga, semester, professors, bill, counseling services, classes, questions, talking, email, senator, alex, bellow, meeting, mental health, ids, piggyback, breaks, amphitheater, professor

## SPEAKERS

President of SAC, Senator Crenshaw, Amber Lemelle, Senator Roach, VPLA LeBlanc, Senator Mott, Senator Clotilde Lair, Unknown, Senator Fretz, Joy Ballard, Senator Plasse, Senator Bellow, Guest speaker

- 
-  Senator Clotilde Lair 00:00  
I now call this meeting to order at 5:04pm. \*\*\*Roll Call\*\*\* With 12 out of 14 senators present we meet quorum. Are there any corrections or changes to today's agenda?
  -  Senator Bellow 02:21  
Alex Bellow IDS on the bill that was attached to the agenda is the an old version of the bill. That's up for discussion tonight. So what should I do to to get the correct bill
  -  VPLA LeBlanc 02:40  
Desmond Leblanc VPLA. I'm just gonna do a point of privilege this one time, Senator Lair. Email me the updated bill. I'll just send it out immediately to everyone.
  -  Senator Bellow 02:53  
I previously sent it to you.

- V** VPLA LeBlanc 02:56  
The only one that I got was the one that I put up there. When did you send it?
- S** Senator Bellow 03:01  
I sent it. I sent it earlier today. But it was also the one that was sent out to you. Last week.
- V** VPLA LeBlanc 03:09  
Gotcha. Was this the one that came up at 12:53? Today?
- S** Senator Bellow 03:16  
Let me confirm.
- V** VPLA LeBlanc 03:22  
I think I see it. Is the new bill. \$2,306.22 cent?
- S** Senator Bellow 03:31  
That is correct.
- V** VPLA LeBlanc 03:32  
I'll send it out right now I apologize. When I looked at it. I didn't think to press the scroll down to see that that was the bill attachment.
- S** Senator Bellow 03:41  
No problem.
- S** Senator Clotilde Lair 03:46  
Are there any other corrections to the agenda? If there are no objections to the agenda, it will be approved. Um, are there any corrections or changes to the minutes from last meeting?

A

Amber Lemelle 04:06

Point of information. I just want to let everybody know I'm very behind on minutes. Things have been really crazy this semester with the personal life. But I worked on some last night at three. I just didn't finish them and I like to send them in like increments. So I'll send them whenever I get through with them. And I'm going home this weekend, so I'll have some free time to myself. So I'll send work on some more those this weekend as well.

Amber Lemelle Clerk of Senate

S

Senator Clotilde Lair 04:38

Thank you. That means we have no corrections or approvals of minutes. Correct. Okay, so we will move on to communications and announcements. Are there any senator communications or announcements Okay, Senator Bellow, you have three minutes to speak.

S

Senator Bellow 05:05

Okay, Senator Alex Bellow IDS, of course reminding everyone that if you are a member of congressional district number two, the election is this weekend, Saturday, voting polls open at six o'clock am and close at eight o'clock pm. So again, if you live in congressional district two and you're a registered voter, this is your last opportunity to cast their vote.

S

Senator Clotilde Lair 05:37

Does anyone have any questions about this? If so, you have three minutes for questioning. If no one has any questions, are there any other communications or announcements? Are there any non senator communications or announcements? If there are no non senator communications and announcements, to the pro tempore and the committee reports, does the pro tempore have report

S

Senator Crenshaw 06:51

senator Crenshaw College of biological sciences motion to be recognized Alex bellow IDS second

J

Joy Ballard 07:15

with 13 out of 13 out of 14 president we still meet quorum. Excellent.

-  Senator Clotilde Lair 07:33  
Okay. Do any committees have report?
-  Senator Plasse 07:43  
No report for Student Affairs.
-  Senator Clotilde Lair 07:45  
Okay. Do any of the other ones have a report? I don't know if we have finance with us today.
-  VPLA LeBlanc 07:58  
Haley Fretz said She didn't have a report as of now for Senate.
-  Senator Clotilde Lair 08:19  
Okay, is there anything from governance?
-  Senator Mott 08:26  
No Report
-  Senator Clotilde Lair 08:27  
Okay. Is there anything from housing?
-  Senator Mott 08:33  
No report.
-  Senator Clotilde Lair 08:34  
Are there any other committees?
-  VPLA LeBlanc 08:40  
Rules! Is Senator Roach here?

**S** Senator Roach 08:43  
Yeah, no report for rules either. Senator Roach.

**V** VPLA LeBlanc 08:49  
I'm sorry, Senator Lair. I have to do this one last time. Senator Roach. Have you been receiving the emails that have been sent out?

**S** Senator Roach 09:02  
Which emails are you referring to?

**V** VPLA LeBlanc 09:04  
Regarding the rules committee?

**S** Senator Roach 09:08  
Like the one that was sent out to discuss voting on the bill being on the agenda this week or the one that was a mass email, that was sent out to tell us who is in what committee.

**V** VPLA LeBlanc 09:22  
For the committee's as well as sending it out to the committee. Did you get that one from me?

**S** Senator Roach 09:28  
Yes, I replied back to it informin you of what that decision was.

**V** VPLA LeBlanc 09:32  
Gotcha. Just wanted to make sure because I didn't see it. Thank you.

**S** Senator Clotilde Lair 09:38  
Okay, quick, I suppose it would be a point of order. Please say your name before you start speaking. I noticed that we've had some discrepancy. I want to make it easier for Amber. When she starts going through the recording.

S Senator Fretz 09:58  
present with our proxy Haley Fretz graduate at large.

V VPLA LeBlanc 10:05  
Second Desmond LeBlanc, VPLA.

S Senator Clotilde Lair 10:10  
Okay. We will now be moving on to the executive reports Does the President have a report is the president here today?

V VPLA LeBlanc 10:28  
She's not, I sent it to advisor Ballard. I could read it if you want me to.

S Senator Clotilde Lair 10:34  
please do.

V VPLA LeBlanc 10:39  
Okay, she says I'm sorry, I haven't really been in meetings. I have a lot of schoolwork that I'm wrapping up alongside of work in SGA duties and other meetings. I'm in contact with administration constantly about graduation date. So when I get those dates for specific colleges, I will share it. Lastly, take care of yourselves as the semester is winding down. I see all the wonderful things y'all do for SGA. And how hard y'all work. And I'm so thankful for all of you. If you have any concerns or questions, please email me. I always check my email at least twice a day.

S Senator Clotilde Lair 11:18  
Are you able to answer any questions?

V VPLA LeBlanc 11:21  
No. If they do have questions for her, just email her.

S Senator Clotilde Lair 11:26  
Okay, sounds good. Does the Vice President have a report. Is the vice president here today? Does the Vice President of programming a report?

P President of SAC 12:17  
Yes, Alright, suck off was today. Oh, I'm Eric. I didn't say that. Suck off was today, I'm very tired. Very successful. We ran out of crawfish. Um, yes. And then next week our final event is the carnival that got rescheduled, its ion the 28th at 5pm. Please, be there, it's going to be fun. I already told you everything about it. Oh, one thing about it, if it rains, it's going to be the UC instead of the quad. But certainly fun and good, so be there. And I yield my time for questions.

S Senator Mott 13:01  
Brendan Mott Jr. at large, is it gonna be like in the ball room?

P President of SAC 13:14  
It's going to be in both the atrium and the ballroom and probably also Insbruck for our world. The food is it's gonna be good. We figured it all out. It's a nice little backup plan. Yeah, we'll probably be in the ballroom.

S Senator Clotilde Lair 13:32  
Alex bellow IDS. Great job today on crawfish boil. Eric. My process was very smooth. No real issues. So congratulations to you and your team.

U Unknown 13:55  
For the carnival how many like corndogs will there be?

P President of SAC 14:00  
I don't remember the specific number. Jyou. Just show up at five and you'll get a corndog guaranteed.

S Senator Clotilde Lair 14:41

Are there any other questions? If they're not, is the judicial here Okay, we'll move on and does the advisor have a report?

- J** Joy Ballard 15:12  
Hey, I do not have a report today but I can take any questions that y'all might have
- S** Senator Fretz 15:20  
Haley Fretz graduate large what's the judicial?
- J** Joy Ballard 15:25  
we have a judicial branch um, they only meet whenever there are problems discrepancies or election fraud. So when there are no judicial reports it's a good week.
- S** Senator Fretz 15:37  
Do we normally skip over that?
- J** Joy Ballard 15:38  
Yes. Because they're okay. They don't. anymore question.
- U** Unknown 15:53  
Election fraud? Like we've had that before?
- J** Joy Ballard 15:57  
Uh, yeah, wild things have happened in SGA. I got some off the record stories.
- S** Senator Bellow 16:08  
Alex Bellow IDS. Joy looks like Desmond has left the meeting. However, the bill that just got sent out was still the wrong bill.
- J** Joy Ballard 16:20



Will you send it to me and I will share my screen. I will make it happen. I'm sorry.

**S** Senator Bellow 16:27  
Sure.

**S** Senator Clotilde Lair 16:32  
Does anyone else have questions for the advisor?

**J** Joy Ballard 16:38  
Oh, it's still my time. I do have one announcement because I know I told you all that I was defending my dissertation. I am now Dr. Joy. I expect none of you to call me that! Dr. Joy sounds like she read a self help book. That's not me. But nonetheless. Thanks for

**S** Senator Clotilde Lair 17:06  
Congragulations Joy. If no one else has questions for the advisor. We don't have any old business and we have new business. When you when you receive the new business, can you put it up on the screen joy? Or let me know.

**J** Joy Ballard 17:25  
Yes as soon as it comes through

**S** Senator Bellow 17:47  
Alex bellow IDS it looks like Desmond did ultimately send the correct one. So I want to correct my previous statement. I, I guess all of the attachments stay on the email. And the one that I pulled up first was the old one. So my apologies.

**S** Senator Clotilde Lair 18:07  
Okay, since we are moving on to new business, Do I have a motion to hear new business?

**S** Senator Bellow 18:34  
Alex bello IDS motion to hear new business.

- S** Senator Clotilde Lair 18:37  
Okay. And a second?
- S** Senator Mott 18:42  
Second Brendan Mott Jr. at Large
- S** Senator Clotilde Lair 18:44  
Thank you. Will the principal authors and sponsors of this bill please come forward and state your name for the record?
- S** Senator Bellow 18:54  
Alex bellow Senator of IDs.
- S** Senator Clotilde Lair 19:01  
Um, thank you. You have six minutes to introduce your bill, and then 10 minutes for questioning afterward. Okay.
- S** Senator Bellow 19:10  
Well, you all have the copy of the bill in front of you. This is for us to provide funding to purchase pipes and supplies for Professor Griffith and a team of his students to paint the amphitheater. The reason why we want to the reason why we want to I am proposing that we do this is because it will by beautifying by beautifying the amphitheater. We believe it will encourage more student activity and involvement on campus which is something that we've all expressed concerns about since this pandemic that the campus is sort of lifeless. We also believe that the enhancing the appearance of the structure will draw more students in when we're hosting events at the, at the amphitheater and hopefully just make it an overall better experience when we're providing various types of offerings and events, utilizing the amphitheater, this bill has gone through many different iterations. And we've landed on this one, where Professor Griffith is asking for \$2,306.22 set just to purchase paint. You can see that \*\*\*known\*\*\* which is the vendor that if I'm not mistaken, UNO has instructed him to use and so he will gather up some of his students to paint the amphitheater. That is all that I have. I yield the rest of my time for questions.



Senator Mott 21:07

So I have a question Brendan Mott Jr. at large, if you look at the university social media they already painted the amphitheater. So is this for additional things, or did they already do this? We're funding it after the fact?



Senator Bellow 21:22

Alex Bellow IDs, I am not aware of this project having already been done. My understanding is that the funds were being requested from us so that the project can be done. I did reach out to Professor Griffith via email today to ask some other questions not related to this, and I have not heard back from him from him at this time.



Senator Fretz 21:59

Haley, Fretz graduate at large, if by chance they did already spend the money and did the painting, and then they're getting our money to pay for that is that allowed?



Senator Clotilde Lair 22:12

point of information? Um, as I understand that, I've talked to Joy before, all money that we vote on Joy, and whoever else, they have to buy the stuff and give it to them if my understanding is correct. Joy?



Joy Ballard 22:31

That is correct, we cannot reimburse them as this project is already done. I will say that, if this were voted on, and the project is already done, the money would roll back to y'all because we would not. They don't just get the money they have they need they get the supplies, they get the supplies. So they already had the supplies for whatever reason. Y'all would get the 2000 some odd dollars.



Senator Fretz 22:57

Haley Fretz graduate at large. Thank you for answering that. Then I also had another question. Now that we have the new bill, which I saw in the email now to that I looked a little harder. So Alex, you're not the only one who was confused. I see that we they don't need the list anymore. My only concern previously was that students were going to be on a lift painting it for free. So now there is no lift. But are they using a ladder? Those tall don't just disappear? Is there any more information on safety precautions, and who's

doing this?

S

Senator Bellow 23:32

Alex Bellow IDS. So I looked back over some emails that Professor Griffith and he stated instead of going out to rent the 1000 or 1200 that he has a stage lift already. I guess that's a part of the amphitheater. However, this may be a moot conversation because Eric is placing in the comments that they already painted it and that there is a play tonight, possibly.

S

Senator Fretz 24:08

Haley Fretz graduate at large Clotilde you're also on this bill, do you have any information?

S

Senator Clotilde Lair 24:14

About what they're doing with the lift?

S

Senator Fretz 24:18

about what they're painting and who's painting it and just more details?

S

Senator Clotilde Lair 24:26

All I know is that they are painting, I believe the back wall of the stage and that students are painting. That's all I know.

P

President of SAC 24:40

If I may talk, Eric Martinez, I'm the SAC president. I'm in that class. Um, he they like bought a lift a used lift and they were teaching some students how to use it. It's all kind of pretty much done being painted. Some students paint in some boxes, but even the ceiling already painted, they got the lights all fixed. I rewired electrical outlets. Um, I don't know, that just felt like I should say that they painted over the mural in the back, which I'm kind of upset about because I believe is like in SGA students really wanted to do that and it's just gone. UmYeah.

- S** Senator Roach 25:24  
Senator Roach graduate student at large motion to table this bill till next week so he can find out if they still need funding for it.
- S** Senator Mott 25:34  
second, Brendan Mott Jr. at laerge
- S** Senator Fretz 25:39  
Haley Fretz graduate at large. I'd like more information besides just if they need it if they need it, where are they putting it? Who's going to be safely doing it and how.
- S** Senator Clotilde Lair 25:51  
Okay. We have no other new business. We have no nominations and appointments. So we will be moving to open forum. We discuss matters for the betterment of SGA here. Does anybody have anything they would like to talk about?
- S** Senator Bellow 26:12  
Yes, Alex Bellow, IDS. We've probably all received the emails today. Well, obviously different IDs about a mental health survey. And I invited to come and sit in on this meeting Miss Monique Zellers, who he is from counseling services. And we, of course, want to make everybody aware of the survey that's out there, and joy or clotilde are can to somebody can answer this question. She would like to speak to introduce herself and talk about outreach efforts. But I'm not sure if we're in the proper part of the agenda or not.
- J** Joy Ballard 27:00  
open forum. Anybody can talk. So welcome you have the floor.
- G** Guest speaker 27:05  
Hello, I am one of the counselors and the multicultural specialists at UML counseling services. I wanted to come and just make Student Government aware of two things that counseling services is trying to do to support students a little bit better. So one, our outreach coordinator, Miriam has crafted a really great assessment survey that has been sent out to a bunch of different departments is on our Instagram to really get a sense

from students, what sort of things they need from counseling services, and what has been like their past interaction with counseling services so that we can improve our services for all students. So that's the first thing that Alex just mentioned. The second thing that I wanted to bring up was that we're really interested in talking to students like directly, to really get more information and a more narrative about what kind of their perception of counseling services and the obstacles that they find, to access like mental health services while being a student. So we're going to be hosting a focus group, at least one likely a few. And the first focus group will be held on Tuesday, May 11. During the lunchtime hour, I was talking to Alex and he said that there may be a few students here who may be interested in participating. And you don't necessarily need to have received services at counseling services to fill out either the needs assessment or participate in the focus group. You could have just heard some things about counseling services. That's fine, good, better for otherwise. So yeah, I just wanted to come and like, see SGA, like in action, and also plugged those two things. I'm definitely down to answer any questions if folks have them.

**S** Senator Clotilde Lair 29:26

I do, Clotilde Lair, where is this focus group? Is it in person or is it through zoom?

**G** Guest speaker 29:32

Great question. It will likely be through zoom. Because in person events is still something that we're trying to stay off for a while.

**S** Senator Bellow 29:45

Alex Bellow IDS, you said lunch. So are you saying 12 to one would you say lunchtime. Can you give us a little more specifics?

**G** Guest speaker 29:57

Yeah. So right now we're just blocking off the day. The lunchtime hour, which is 12 to one, it probably won't last the whole hour. But we want students to kind of mark off that time if they have been available

**S** Senator Clotilde Lair 30:15

Where are you? How are you going to publicize this? Are you sending an email to everyone?

**G** Guest speaker 30:23  
Yeah, we are in the process of sending out information about the survey. We're are in the process of creating some content to blast on our Instagram pages in the newsletter, and to a few student organizations who are already like, primed and ready to talk about counseling services. I think that's where we're going to start first and then open it up to all students. But I wanted to tap into students who may already be talking about counseling services. If that makes sense?

**S** Senator Clotilde Lair 31:08  
It does. Thank you.

**G** Guest speaker 31:15  
Great questions. Any other questions?

**A** Amber Lemelle 31:23  
Great. I have a question. Yeah. Are y'all able to implement rules and like, or themes or regulations or things to help students? Because I just, I'm just curious of like, who we could turn to because SGA has tried to do something already about like, giving, like implementing a mental health day for students. And honestly, like, counseling services can help us but when we don't even have time to worry about our mental health, it's hard to like work on it. Because we're more stressed about school than actually having time to care about our mental health, especially with things being online, like school has become very invasive. If you ask me like an exam on a Sunday. And like, my people were shocked about that. And so I'm wondering if, like, while we can also talk about like, our mental health in regard to like, our personal lives, is there anything that y'all can do to help out with the struggles we're having with with school? And I don't know, I don't know. I didn't really word it in a good question way. But I hope you get what I'm saying.

**G** Guest speaker 32:36  
Yeah, it sounds like you're asking if Counseling Services has any sort of like clout or ability to help students with like structural or institutional things that may be affecting their mental health? That right?

**A** Amber Lemelle 32:50

Yes. Okay.

G

Guest speaker 32:52

That's a great question. I don't know what we've done in the past. In regards to that, in my role, as in my role as the multicultural specialist, that's something I'd definitely be interested in talking to you all a little bit more, I would have to talk to my director to see to make sure there's no conflict. And just figure out more about the lines of how to, or the boundaries between like supporting student advocacy efforts. Just because I've moved in my role. I've only been here for about four months. So the answer is I don't know. But I am interested.

A

Amber Lemelle 33:39

Okay, thank you. And I don't know if you saw on the chat, but there's, um, Senator Callahan said some things too, if someone was to read them out loud.

G

Guest speaker 33:56

Linda says, I think I did the survey twice by mistake because my memory is non-existent. It's fine Linda. I've had a lot of mental health trouble during COVID from maleah and also said school makes my mental health plummet, especially when teachers refuse to be accommodative, or give breaks and just pile on work. Yeah. And an affirmation I am exactly in the same place. Great. Thank you glad I'm pronouncing your name, right. Things are important. No break is honestly what's kind of driving me insane. Good. Okay. Yeah, so I, that information is super helpful. We've been looking at some of the results as they're coming in and, but a decent amount of students have expressed frustration over not having a break this semester. And just overall, managing the workload as a full-time or part-time student in the time of this pandemic. So that's definitely something that we're hearing a lot about so thank you for sharing those things. Other like questions or about like our initiatives or just generally about counseling services that I can ask. I can answer right now.

S

Senator Bellow 35:18

Alex Bellow IDS I'm not sure if this one is for you miss Zellers or someone else. Didn't we instill mental health days into our semester this year? Because we knew we weren't getting a spring break.





Senator Mott 35:41

Point of information, Brendan Mott Jr. at large essentially President Nicklow that he couldn't cancel classes because we were already. We already had like, two storms where the university had to cancel classes. But he strongly encouraged professors do not have assignments due on certain days. Now did professors actually listen to that. That's kind of the issue.



Senator Bellow 36:01

Got it Thank you.



Senator Plasse 36:03

Linda Plasse Jr. at large I was one of the sponsors on that resolution. When we wrote it, it was me and vice president Ray. And one of the responses we had got from President Nicklow was that he did not control staff and he can't tell teachers when to hold class or not. And I'm not sure if that's 100% he's the president, but I feel like it warrants looking into more sense like, the one repetitive thing students are saying is that not having breaks has been like killing us this semester. Because people are like worn out and breaking down. And me personally, like it's affected my health, not just my mental health.



Joy Ballard 36:49

That is true. So tenured faculty have something called academic freedom, it is written into their contracts. And we honestly like it is a contractual agreement that we cannot tell them, they have to do anything in classes. Unfortunately, that is the case. But I have suggested before to previous presidents, I would suggest to you all Now, while that is true, if you go to the faculty senate and speak to the Faculty Senate, they, as the Faculty Senate have the power to tell faculty what to do. It's faculty on faculty. So that is a key place. They really have more power over faculty than Dr. Nicklow. And I know that that seems like a weird chain of command. But it is the way their contract.



Senator Mott 37:43

Question about that, then? How is it that you can cancel classes for like bad weather or something like that, but he can't tell professors just to cancel for mental health. But it doesn't really make sense to me. Like is it worded in that specific way that for emergency purposes he can, but for like for students like leisure who can't,



Joy Ballard 38:02

you can cancel for emergency days, because we build emergency days into this schedule from the beginning. We know that we can cancel so many times, and still make the number of required hours from the Board of Regions. That was not an option. So his only option was to say, Hey, don't schedule any tests that day. And the concept of scheduling tests and assigning things to do, does fall into academic freedom.



Senator Fretz 38:35

Haley Fretz graduate at large just so that this helps come slightly easier. We also had this same obstacle when trying to get Proctoru removed. Although we advise that we didn't like it and all the things that we didn't like about it that cost money. The reason that bill did not pass was because Dr. Nicklow is not allowed to tell them not to use those particular products.



Senator Clotilde Lair 39:01

Clotilde Lair, Joy do we know when faculty senate meetings are?



Joy Ballard 39:07

We do the SGA president has a seat on those meetings. So I don't know exactly when they are but they are on the SGA president's calendar. So we could ask Julianne.



Amber Lemelle 39:22

Amber Lemelle Clerk of Senate. When it comes to like, and the thing about it is like, I don't want to bash professors because I won't say that all the professor ever had were like terrible and not understanding. But whenever it comes to situations where like, our classes are online, they don't communicate with each other. So okay, just because all of my professors are understanding that doesn't lessen the amount of work I have to do because if I have online assignment due on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, like it doesn't matter if one person lets me turn it in later because then I have three assignments due on Tuesday. And then if that professor allows me to turn it in later then I have four assignments due Wednesday. So I think another problem is like communication among colleges and professors because they don't coordinate with each other. I remember having three midterms back to back to back. Oh, no, that was last semester, three finals back to back and two papers due on that same Friday that I had a final. I personally think that's ridiculous, like no way in the world that I could have studied for all of those and

done great on each one of those tests individually and got an A on all my papers, like, that's literally impossible for one human to do. And I just don't think that that's fair, or setting us up for greatness. If if like, that's just impossible for me to do great. And all of them, you really have to, like you have to pick and choose which class that you're going to do amazing in, and then just fail or make a C and the others. And I just don't think that's fair to us, especially when things are on. Like, it wasn't that bad when things were in person not saying I miss in person class, but also like, if you're going to implement online classes and make us go to online classes, like it has to work for everybody, in my opinion,

S

Senator Mott 41:08

I agree with that Brendan Mott Jr. at large, I also think that they're trying really hard to teach online classes, how they teach in person classes. And that's not all you have to do.

P

President of SAC 41:20

Eric Martinez, I would like to piggyback on what amber said that this also relates to people who for whatever reason have fallen behind. Like, for example, I made this new friend, and he's dropping out because he fell behind, it just could not catch up, no matter how hard you try. He's failing a lot of classes, I tried to refer him to like, talk to counseling services and stuff. I don't know if he did. Um, and I know a bunch of students who feel this way, like they just just gave up, you can't catch up, there's no breaks, to do your work. And the professors are all, at least with these people mean about it, like you should have done this not understanding that like in a normal semester, you would have a break to catch up probably. It's, it's frustrating.

A

Amber Lemelle 42:10

And along with that, half I don't know about y'all. But sis works 40 hours a week, and probably more. So like handling that on top of bills on top of SGA. On top of trying to be an involved student on top of trying to be positive, like all those things build up. Like, I think professors forget that we have lives and we are people like not everybody is in the position to where Oh, we don't have to work because we get scholarships, or because we live with our parents and not everybody's parents pay for their housing, like those things aren't available to everybody. So some of us have to work. And this is like it's impossible to stay up every night until 3am to make sure your assignment gets done, like at some point, like that's just unhealthy and you can't like you're literally crashed. And it drives people to a point of like, God forbid, but like, it drives people to a point of like, feeling like a failure and sanity, like all kinds of things. And I just think that professors worry about just their class, when it's not just about this one class. It's not just about this one subject, it's

about all of it together.

S

Senator Plasse 43:18

Linda Plasse junior at large, just again, kind of piggybacking on what everyone's saying, on top of everything else Disability Services has not been the most helpful during this time. I have a bunch of like pre existing medical conditions. And I've had professors straight up say like, health is not a good enough excuse to be late on assignments. Like I was in the hospital Monday and my dad had to email my professor saying I was in the hospital and one straight up told me him like, don't contact me unless she has signed like an information release form. Like I don't care if you're her father, and she's in the hospital. And, you know, I've been talking to Amy King with disability accommodations, and she only has two of my seven classes on file for it. Even though like I sent her all the contracts. So we're being burned out in the school. So just isn't offering us any like way to help with anything that we're going through. And I've had multiple professors say like, Oh, just quit your job or just drop out of any student involvement. And I'm like, oh, you're paying my bills. Got it. That's fantastic. Thank you. Like they're just they're completely unrealistic about their expectations for us. They give us no breaks. And it's way bigger of a workload than before COVID, which is I still think ridiculous

S

Senator Clotilde Lair 44:29

Clotilde Lair I love the discussion here. I really do. I'm curious if we would like to do anything. I know that if we have like a problem with the professor's, Joy was saying that possibly talk to the faculty Government do to do something like that. Can we?

A

Amber Lemelle 44:54

I was thinking actually to piggyback off what you just said. I suggested senator Lair, um, I think that either like in the next because I know our semester is about to end but like in the fall maybe, or even starting over the summer, or just like starting to create a committee that is specifically catered toward the Faculty Senate, because I feel like a lot of the things we bring up, have a lot to do with issues with professors or issues within our classes. And we've already tried twice, once with the Mental Health Day, and once with the proctoru situation to handle it as just SGA. Like as a whole. And clearly that's not working and doing the same thing over and over again, is just the definition of insanity. So you have to we have to do something different. So I think that creating committee, and not just having the president meet with the faculty, and maybe having like a meeting with the committee as well, or, you know, just having a committee so that they can relate the issues that students are having to the president so that they can the President can bring it up in those

meetings as well. Because obviously, they're not taking us seriously enough as SGA as a whole, or they're just not, they're not, they don't know about it, because who knows if they even know that we were the ones who tried to do the mental health day because a lot of the times people don't even know that it's us trying to implement these things.

**S** Senator Clotilde Lair 46:21

I Understand, do you want to head that up? find anybody who's interested and let Desmond know that that's what you would like to do? ,

**A** Amber Lemelle 46:39

Currently I'm actually not really in SGA. I'm not a senator. I don't know if I can do that.

**J** Joy Ballard 46:49

Point of information Amber. Yes, you can start that. Also, that would be your faculty senate seat in the fall. So you are already like in the position to do that. So I think it's fair for you to start.

**A** Amber Lemelle 47:04

Oh, oh, yeah, that is true. Okay. Yeah, you're right.

**S** Senator Bellow 47:09

Alex bellow IDS,I think we need to, I think, for the the senators who will be in SGA, next semester, and Amber, you're going to be leading, I think you guys may want to consider taking this out of UNO and actually lobbying actual state legislators regarding this stuff. Because if we're going to continue to be told, well, they're tenured, and there's nothing we can do about it. And then we're dealing with boards of regions and things of that nature that's beyond, UNO. So I think I think we need to consider lobbying, lobbying actual state representatives and state senators to begin to address and evaluate how tenured professors are allowed to deal with deal with students, especially considering the fact that we are the world, like, we knew it before March of 2020, does not exist anymore, the world has changed. And so so just sticking to the old ways of doing things, is probably going to end you guys up in burnout and frustration, and anxiety and depression, and, and everything else. So I think, you know, the, the stuff we exercise here through SGA, maybe it sounds like we have to go further and go to the state legislature to to begin to address this address this matter. Because, um, you know, just, it's almost like an excuse, I get to

say, to to get tenure, and I don't have to do my job, which is take care of my students. That's, that's, that's the job of leaders of a university is to take care of students. And so to be able to just say, tenure, you know, and then the conversation is over. Well, maybe we need to address how tenure is impacting students. And so that's it. I do want to share one other thing. before we adjourn. And I want to apologize to my colleagues here. No one informed me that this painting project, I'm referring to the amphitheater, no one informed me that this painting project already got underway. If I would have known that I would have disclosed that even without the knowledge that we couldn't go back and reimburse them. So it is my apologies. And I did not receive an email from Professor Griffith or anybody else informing me that they were moving forward with the project. So please accept my apologies. I would not have wasted your time. disrespected you with a conversation of a bill that is basically moved at this point. So my apologies



Senator Crenshaw 50:09

Crenshaw, Senator College of biological sciences. I wanted to kind of like piggyback off of that because I also like never saw like an email talking about the amphitheater, like you would see people working on stuff like you know, when you pass by, but you're not really sure what's going on because me personally, I've never received an email saying, oh, we're going to be painting the amphitheater we're going to be you know, doing stuff like that usually know what's happening on campus isn't stuff that I really care about too much.



Senator Mott 50:46

point of order on myself. I forgot to do time So time is technically supposed to have been up.



Senator Clotilde Lair 50:56

Motion to adjourn.



Senator Mott 50:59

motion to extend Brendan.



Senator Crenshaw 51:18

Okay, second Crenshaw College of biological science.

S

Senator Mott 51:22

Okay, Brendan, Mott Jr. at large. So kind of piggybacking off of the we're not getting the information on so this. So this campus beautification project, we've been doing it, essentially because of me, because I basically have decided to kind of walk around and, and just look at the emails myself. President Romero finally sent me what I'm what President Nicklow said, and it carbon copies the director of facility services, and the director of ABM, but they never respond to emails. So how are we supposed to get a beautification project underway if the people who are in charge of campus maintenance only respond to emails? Like, I don't think like, how can we do a project like

S

Senator Clotilde Lair 52:08

I personally want to get started on I wanted to restart the maintenance committee, I think I should probably really start up on this, to get communication going back and forth. The last time that I tried to start it up, they wanted me to bring forth reason for why we should be starting up on the skin and what we should be talking about. And that's where I got stuck, because I was not able to reach out to Wesley because he was graduating this semester. If nobody else has anything else to say.

G

Guest speaker 52:57

If possible, I just want to say thank you all for letting me like sit in. And thank y'all for being honest about how this semester and honestly, like this year has been for y'all. I'm not currently a student. So I don't know what exactly what your experience is like. But I definitely believe when you say that y'all have not been that your concerns have not been listened to, and that the university can be responding better to your needs. So I'm definitely going to take the information that y'all have like some of what has been talked about in this conversation, just broader themes that and I'll be sure to push out some information about the survey and the focus group, if you are still interested, and also figure out what housing services can do to support yalls support students needs for like structural and institutional like shifts to support overall mental health.

A

Amber Lemelle 54:03

One more thing, I don't want to keep anybody but another thing I noticed, like I just thought about another thing is like all of us are pretty involved students. And like, I don't know if it's just me, but I felt like, specifically this semester and a little bit of last semester, like, I suddenly felt like it was like, man, I can't handle it all anymore. Like I've always been able to, like balance everything and be like, in this club in this club, go to this meeting,

blah, blah, blah, do my homework, do good, have good grades, whatever, whatever. And then now I just like can't seem to like stay on that track. And I'm like, I know, I haven't changed. Like I'm not any less hard working. I'm not any less than or motivated a little bit because of mental health. But like, generally speaking, like I'm still the same person, I'm still the same student. So what is changing because a lot of professors like to say like, well, nothing's changed, like you're still doing the same amount of work. You're still going to class and you're still doing this, but that's Not the case because things are changing. And they I think some of them are just failing to realize like, it's not the same anymore. And sitting in front of a computer screen is also draining. Like, I just hate to keep dwelling on this subject. But I just had to say that example, as well.



55:18

I actually was going to say something similar. Senator Callahan. I was I was talking I can't remember who I was talking to. But I was talking about how this semester has been one of the hardest for me, but this semester, like realistically, if you look at the work hasn't been the hardest on paper. But every semester is compounding the more and more stressful that now what could have been my easiest semester is actually my hardest semester so far, and I'm working on not failing, and it's very exhausting.



President of SAC 55:49

I'm having a similar experience. I have all elective classes, because this is my final semester and it should be easy. I pick easy fun classes and I'm like dying. This is so much.



Senator Clotilde Lair 56:01

If nobody else has anything that they would like to discuss on the record. I would like to have a motion for adjournment.



Senator Crenshaw 56:11

Motion to adjourn Brendan MottJr. at large




Senator Clotilde Lair 56:15

Thank you. Is there a second ?



 Senator Crenshaw 56:17  
Second Crenshaw College of biological sciences

 Senator Clotilde Lair 56:21  
Okay, I adjourn this meeting at 5:59pm. A