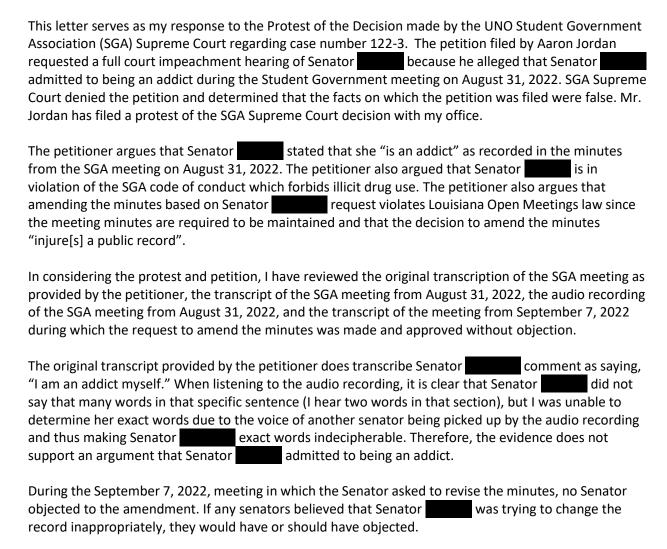
Chief Justice Dwayne Crenshaw SGA Supreme Court Djcrensh@uno.edu

October 13, 2022

Dear Chief Justice Crenshaw,



The Open Meetings Law FAQ states that minutes are required for meetings that fall under the Open Meetings Law. However, the FAQ also makes clear that minutes "need not be verbatim transcripts of the meeting and that summaries satisfy the requirement". Roberts Rules also provides guidance here: "Minutes are a record of what was done at a meeting, not a record of what was said."

While SGA has chosen to use the transcript as minutes, it is not necessary and fails to meet the standard laid out by Roberts Rules of Order. Confusion caused by inaccurate transcription or inaudible audio could be avoided by a move to provide summaries of meetings as minutes rather than relying on transcription. I encourage SGA to consider providing summaries as minutes rather than meeting

transcriptions. Robert's Rules provides guidance on amending minutes, which is common practice for many public boards:

If corrections to minutes are made at the time when those minutes are originally submitted for approval, such corrections are made in the text of the minutes being approve. The minutes of the meeting at which corrections are made should merely indicate that the minutes were approved "as corrected" without specifying what the correction was.

Since the minutes of the August 31, 2022, SGA meeting were amended, the minutes need to reflect that they were corrected. If they do not currently say "as corrected", the SGA secretary needs to make that adjustment to the minutes.

While the audio transcript does not support the petitioner's argument, even if it did, an admission of being an addict would not automatically violate the SGA Code of Conduct. The SGA Code of Conduct states:

7.2. The UNOSGA Code of Conduct is as follows: 7.2.1. Must abide by Federal, State, and New Orleans Laws. ... 7.2.5. The following are forbidden: 7.2.5.1. Conviction of a Felony 7.2.5.2. Criminal Stalking 7.2.5.3. Theft/Burglary/Robbery 7.2.5.4. Battery 7.2.5.5. Rape/Sexual Assault 7.2.5.6. Assault 7.2.5.7. Hazing 7.2.6. Also included are the conviction of: 7.2.6.1. Underage Drinking, 7.2.6.2. Knowingly Aiding in the Delinquency of a Minor, with Regards to Alcohol 7.2.6.3. Destruction of Property 7.2.6.4. Illicit drug use

Addiction support groups acknowledge that addiction recovery takes work. Individuals who are in recovery often refer to themselves as "addicts". When someone says they are an addict, they are not saying that they are currently using drugs. There is no evidence provided in the petition to support a claim that Senator is currently using illicit drugs in violation of federal, state, or New Orleans laws or that she has been convicted of illicit drug use. Further, any effort to remove an individual for being a recovering addict (without evidence of current illicit drug use) might violate their rights because substance abuse disorders may be covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Based on the information outlined above, I support and uphold the SGA Supreme Court's decision to deny a full hearing.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Golz, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
Dean of Students