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Senate Minutes

November 28th, 2017

Graduate Education Auditorium, 6:00 PM

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**

a. 1 absent

b. 44 present

c. 4 proxy

1. **Approval of the Minutes**
2. **Special Orders**
   1. Reports (5 minutes each)
      1. Special Reports
      2. Advisor, Michael McAllister
         1. ASG Executives what have office hours from dead day through finals week.
         2. OSA will be available to meet with student leaders until the University closes for the break.
      3. Graduate Assistants, Joshua Saraping and Sage McCoy
      4. President, Andrew Counce
         1. State of the Students Address
            1. Motion to suspend the time rules, passed.
            2. Welcome to all attending.
            3. Addressed the background, purpose, and mission of ASG.
            4. The state of the students is strong.
            5. A year ago he and the current executive team started the campaign, “All In.”
            6. The executive team was at orientation and welcomed the Class of 2021.
            7. ASG intiatives—welcome back cookout, chancellors ball and homecoming have been attendant more than ever by students.
            8. JB-9 passed the Graduate Student Congress and they got a bid to host the national conference and won national member of the year.
            9. ASG Senate—continues to impress him with legislation.
            10. OFA has allocated over $89,000 dollars to over 80 RSO’s on campus, they have engaged many organizations.
            11. SOOIE and ASG relation continues to improve.
            12. Razorback Action Group has established better relations with legislatures to promote higher education and promote the University of Arkansas.
            13. ASG Cabinet—has made all intiatives a reality; Health Days, Its on Us week, and Diversity/inclusion week have helped promote this.
            14. In the Chancellors 8 guiding priorities—the Chancellor wants to create a “Student Success Center” like the facility that is geared for student athletes. This will happen in the Spring by the Garland bookstore.
            15. In the Spring ASG will pursue, the intiative for Mullins to be turned into 24-7 during certain days of the week.
            16. In the Spring ASG, will pursue the expanded Grade Forgiveness policy.
            17. ASG will be writing and revising the constitution and code headed by a committee from elected representatives from each body.
            18. He acknowledges that the current intiatives and plans are not easy but can be overcome by looking at the opportunities and not the obstacles.
            19. Jeff Long and Bret Bilema were great assets for our students and wanted to help however they could.
            20. He hopes that Interim AD Pepoles, Chancellor, Board of Trustee’s, and search committee will find individuals that continue this legacy and promote putting student interest first.
            21. He wants ASG members to leave a legacy as student leaders and that they remember that the impact they make on individuals last forever.
      5. Vice-President, Natalie Counce
3. The holiday party is next Wednesday now and like her message so she orders enough pizza for everyone.
4. January 15th is MLK Day and the vigil is at noon.
   * 1. Treasurer, Macarena Arce
        + 1. OFA is doing a video to teach students how to apply for funding.
          2. Proxy applications are being opened tomorrow.
          3. We will be reviewing OFA rules tonight.
     2. Secretary, Ashton Yarborough—no report.
     3. Chief Justice, Andrew Hansen—not present.
     4. GSC Speaker, Arley Ward--- no report.
     5. Cabinet Reports
        1. Chief of Staff, JT Hale
           1. Yielded time to Director of Campus Life, Triston Cross.
           2. Representative Collins will be talking about the campus carry bill at the Red Talk on Thursday.
     6. FLF Coordinator, Abigail Walker
        + 1. FLF Fall Service Event is on Thursday, so show your support.
     7. Chair of the Senate, Colman Betler
        + 1. Next week is the last meeting of the semester.
          2. Casual dress and cupcakes will be present before the meeting.
          3. Please attend the ASG party and he will be giving out goofy awards.
          4. Legislation can go up for first reading next week unless it is a long budget item then please wait for next Semester.
          5. Only 1 vacancy is present for next semester and less than 5 exist they will be appointed based on the last 2 elections.
          6. Nametags and Clickers will be set out when you come in so please move to them.
          7. If you don’t have a clicker or nametag, please let a page get them for you.
5. **Appointments, Nominations, and Elections**
6. **Public Comment (3 at 2 minutes each)** 
   1. Moses Agare—donate to his campaign for the school in his home country.
   2. Trevor Villines—The Union has finalized the plans and will start in May to be completed in August.
7. **Old Business**
   1. ASG Senate Resolution No. 7 - A Resolution to Support the Creation of An Enrollment Notification System
      1. Authored by Senator Drake Moudy, Senator Jesse Kloss, Secretary Ashton Yarbrough
         * 1. Academics Committee is in favor of it.
           2. Secretary Yarbough—acknowledged that some students already get an email but this will ensure that it covers all students and that all students get notified when there registration date is.
           3. Passed: 46 to 1, 0 abstain.
      2. Sponsored by Senator Mateo Lopez, Senator Caroline Dallas, and Senator Noah Bradshaw
8. **New Business**
   1. ASG Senate Bill No. 03 - The Purchase of Scantrons for Students during Finals Week
      1. Authored by Senator Jacob Boone and Senator Cassidy Cook
         1. Discussed that we are teaming up with Coffee and Cookies to pass out scantrons.
         2. Amended the bill to read that the amount of scantrons will only 2 per student and that the date/time of the event is on December 10th, 2017 from 10 pm to 12 am.
         3. Recessed for 5 minutes for the allocations committee to meet prior to second reading.
         4. Authors will keep a record of where the scantrons go for data collection and future reference.
         5. Allocations Committee thinks it’s a good idea to pass the legislation as none of the senate budget has been spent yet.
         6. Vote Count: 42 Pass, 6 Fail, 0 Abstain.
      2. Sponsored by Senator Taylor Hill, Senator Kianna Sarvestani, Senator Caroline Dallas, Senator Katelyn Collison, Senator Petigna, Senator Panyard, Senator Fielder, Senator Carlisle, Senator Arnold, Senator Hartmann, Senator Cleaver, Senator Stewart, Senator Pinkerton, Senator Woosley, Senator Kochan, Senator Breeding, Senator Taylor, Senator Winston, Senator Davis, Senator Dubois, Senator Sebree, Senator Smith, Senator Dorf
   2. ASG Senate Bill No. 04 – A Bill Funding Programming for Student Safety
      1. Authored by Senator Allison Barnett, Senator Kianna Sarvestani, ASG Director of Student Safety JP Gairhan
         1. Gary Smith wants to know that students actually know how to use the crosswalks before they spend money to get more.
         2. A survey will go out regarding where students want a crosswalk and then they can go to a meeting and present the data.
         3. They want to show students the safety intiatives already present like CAPS, Safe Ride.
         4. They are trying to buy whistles and distress signals to help with the lighting issues on certain areas of campus.
         5. The amount of whistles and signals is an estimate depending on tax.
         6. Referred to Campus Life and Allocations Board for a committee report.
      2. Sponsored by Senator Cassidy Cook and Senator Brandon Davis
   3. ASG Joint Bill No. 1 – OFA Standing Rules
      1. Authored by Treasurer Macarena Arce
         1. Explained the basis for the changes and why they should be passed.
         2. Addressed that is a very tedious process and this allows for OFA to be more productive as this clarifies a lot of the issues they have seen this past semester with funding request.
         3. Referred to Internal Affairs committee.
      2. Sponsored by Chair of Senate Colman Betler
   4. ASG Senate Resolution No. 8 - A Resolution to Support The Extension of Brough A Go-Go Hours
      1. Authored by Senator Caroline Dallas, Senator Cassidy Cook, and Senator Luke Turner
         1. Idea came from students with packed schedules with meal plans on campus cannot grab something quickly, provide more to go boxes
         2. Changes in Brough A Go-Go Goes in to effect Monday December 1, 2017, via Chartwells.
         3. Referred to Campus Life Committee for a report at the next meeting.
      2. Sponsored by Senator Brittany Smith, Senator Ryan Panyard, Senator Jake Stewart, Senator Blaine Fielder, Senator Cade Carlisle, Senator Drake Moudy, Senator Brandon Davis, Senator Emma Cleaver, and Senator Jared Pinkerton
   5. ASG Joint Resolution No. 4 - A resolution in opposition to the elimination of educational tax incentives
      1. Authored by GSC Vice Speaker Josh Burbridge (time extended by 5 minutes)
         1. Student Loans can no longer be a write-off.
         2. Graduate Assistants don’t pay taxes on the tuition waiver but do pay taxes on the income they do receive from the assistantship.
         3. The tax has been passed through the House a few weeks ago and passed by the Senate Committee today.
         4. This is not making any statements regarding the current tax legislation but this JR will go to our representatives to tell them that we think that the provisions outlined should not be passed within the current the tax bill.
         5. Senators questioned how this affects undergraduate students other than the student loans and clarification was given that scholarships are not currently taxed but that was refuted by authors.
         6. A tuition waiver cannot exceed the cost of tuition.
         7. Clarification was given on how this effects the Congressional Budget office and that cutting all the provisions in the JR would not provide
         8. The Director of External Relations has not been involved in this and would need to be involved in the sending of it to the legislators.
         9. Senator Moudy read directly from the tax bill, that undergraduates are not involved in this saying that “below the graduate student level are not involved in this.”
         10. Additional Senator Moudy wanted how 117-A and 117-D differentiate and how that impacts the overall bill, He clarified that it exempts all undergraduates from the cuts.
         11. The result of the discussion was if the bill passes as is then undergraduates would not be affected by the entire bill.
         12. This has passed in GSC.
         13. Senator Smith wanted to clarify that the Senate plan for tax reform doesn’t tax the tuition waiver and if we should send it to the Senators since they aren’t voting.
         14. Referred to academics committee.
      2. GSC Speaker Arley Ward, Representative Alexander Marino, Representative Daniel Elkin, Representative Ashley Whiting, Representative Chris Birch, Representative Elizabeth Tetley, Representative Isabel Whitehead, Representative Kristen Callahan, Representative Morse, Representative Cervellere, Chair of Senate Colman Betler
9. **Announcements**
10. **Adjournment**