

UNIVERSITY of
HOUSTON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Minutes as Recorded

By: Jackson Crawford, Senate Emerging Leader
UC North Senate Chamber, 7:30 PM
Wednesday February 25th, 2015

Clause 1: Call to Order by the presiding officer

I. Opening call of the roll

Completed, 19:35 PM, see attached Roster

Clause 2: Recital of the Alma Mater

Clause 3: Reading and approval of previous meeting's minutes

No corrections, approved as presented.

Clause 4: Special Reports

I. University Representatives wishing to address the senate

Dr.Chin – Faculty Senate President

Congratulations at UH Day at the Capitol -- wish there were more faculty members. Make a message to faculty in the future and will be paying attention to have more faculty for UH day at the capitol

Reimbursement on travel - certain constraints on all members of university members, rules and constraints that go to colleges and departments, it is a college issue, not a university issue.

II. Students wishing to address the Senate

Christine Vice President of UH Habitat for Humanity

Helps HH build on site, goal to raise money to build a house. Officer positions are open.

Habitatathuh.wordpress.com. Building coming up March 2nd. President Haston - you can send out email to all of student body through DSA Coog News bulletin.

Senator Dixit - Cougar Place cares this week are you apart. Christine- not yet but we will try to get with them.

Senator Chowdhury- have you reach out to housing, Christine- you can have a poster and housing can do something.

Speaker Smith- you can contact Director of Communications De'Awn Bunch to have Coog News to send out message.

<http://habitatathuh.wordpress.com>

III. Two-minute speeches by the Members of the Senate

Senator Fischer – glad to be back from Boston.

Senator Chowdhury- Best of luck for midterms, volunteered for Habitat for Humanity. Attendance of basketball game needs to improve. Charlotte awesome job at UH Day at the Capitol.

Senator Shareef - Barron's is open, student ran restaurant. Meal money go to student scholarships.

Senator Kirchhoff - Speaking at SWE (Society of Women's Engineers) tonight, tomorrow National Society for Black Engineers, apologies for missing UH day at the Capitol. Making a student council for college of engineering

Senator Sanford - 1st floor of Calhoun Lofts - if you are interested in marines let them know, NCBDs conference happening this weekend

Senator Dixit - April 11 tentative day for a lot of Bauer organizations are having a cook off

Senator Fields – UH Day at the Capitol congratulate Charlotte

Senator Magadi - Publicize UBlast App- 21st century version of clipboard, another platform to advertise. March 5th, free stuff.

Clause 5: Executive and Speaker Reports

- I. Report of the President
UH day at the capitol- thank you Charlotte for doing everything last minute. Thank you to all senators for helping. 33 days left, proud of what we accomplished, Focused on UH issues, not political issues. Not going to be lame duck session. Not taking last month off. Make another 2nd push on advising bill. Made progress on academic advising bill. It's a long road to get all pieces together. Things that have not happened yet, update to course catalog, changes, and new website that makes it easy to look at degree plans. Not addressed course descriptions are not up yet. All professors have syllabi and they can email it and have it available on myUH. Part that was implemented, surveys after advisor meetings, helps fix issues and justify movement of advisors. Keep pushing even in next administration. Hoping to have something to bring to next senate meeting. Student life.
- II. Report of the Vice President
Not Present – In Class
- III. Report of the Chief of Staff
Not Present – In Class
- IV. Report of the Director of Finance
Not Present
- V. Report of the Director of Public Affairs
March 31st SGA banquet, Erica will be sending out invitations
Senator Chowdhury - is the date set in stone?
Yes, March 31
- VI. Report of the Director of External Affairs
Working with Marcus for almost a year. We as a student government focused on getting students their, get folks more involved and better advertised. Talked with a lot of offices. Planning mental health and wellness week. Monday is going to be health and wellness fair, Tuesday, March 10, a series of workshops in student center, panel of students sharing mental health issues.
Senator Kirchhoff - When is mental health awareness week happening?
March 9-11 working with multiple departments.
- VII. Report of the Attorney General
Elections are next week, remind friends to vote and have a good turn out next week, working with UH Snapchat to post some stuff there.
- VIII. Report of the Chief Election Commissioner
(Associate Commissioner Crawford) - Marketing confirming Andrew Cox for marketing, materials are finished and picked up. Really happy with how marketing is looking. One event that happened today -- fresh food social. More students know about elections. Make sure you are going and talking to people. Most events are completed other events are going to happen presidential debate is tomorrow at the Law Center room 144. Recommend going even if you are not running. Freshman housing, request for resignation are all topics at the debate. At latest Monday we want you to share marketing around and show importance of SGA.
- IX. Report of the Speaker
Shaun - Thanked Charlotte for UH day at the Capitol. Thank those who all attended. Two more senate meetings, one next Wednesday, 4 March and 25 March. Next administration - first four Wednesdays of April have set meetings. Committee meetings are still going.
President Haston- where are we on absences
They are being tallied.
Senator Fields- is Director of Finance going to give a report?
President Haston- Maybe soon.

Clause 6: Committee Reports

I. Reports of the Standing Committees

a. Academic Affairs

Senator Kirchhoff - met with Dr. Ortiz last Thursday to discuss funding for study aboard.

Making the fee instead of \$1 to 50 cents. This is very lenient compared to other universities.

Senator Salinas and Kirchhoff are going to write a memo to Dr. Dunkelberger, for the Faculty Senate Undergraduate Committee

President Haston - Are you aware that there is a moratorium against changes of fees?

Yes

b. University Administration & Finance

No report made

c. Internal Affairs

Took a look at 3 proposals, didn't approve attorney general legislations,

President Haston - Can you talk a little bit more- why not allow change from lifetime to one year?

Shouldn't have pressure from political alliances

President Haston- How is it possible for a president to have a cabinet member that they did not want? Would it be possible for the attorney general to go to the committee meeting

Yes

d. Student Life

No officers present to report

II. Reports of the Select Committees

a. CSD

Not present to report as scheduled

Clause 7: Old Business

I. SGAB-51007 *Attorney General Appointment Amendment* (Committee Reviewed – Not Recommended)

Motion from Senator Fields to send back to committee

President Haston motion ten minute moderated discussion

Lifetime appointment may affect future presidents. Every other attorney general is elected or appointed.

Previous administrations attorney general may not resign and be stuck with new president. Lots of things the attorney general is responsible for other than elections. Conflicts may arise. Cabinet member needs to hire by president.

Matt- conflict if someone graduates during winter, you have to find to replace them just before election commissioner needs help.

Attorney general- there's a lot to do in a small amount of time if the attorney general graduates

Senator Fields - If we pass this it removes the potential of a disgruntled cabinet member. Don't have to worry about the attorney general being upset with them.

President Haston- Motion to call to question

Nays have it.

Main motion to commit to committee

Ayes have it.

II. Ballot Measure-51001 *Senator Allotment Amendment* (Committee Reviewed - Recommended)

Ballot measure to present to student body to amend SGA Constitution if one college does not meet 4% the college can still elect one senator.

Senator Smith - Just a language clean up for the constitution. This will be put on the ballot.

Move to question

Ayes have it

Clause 8: New Business

- I. Open Nominations to Vacant Senate Seats: *College of Optometry, Graduate College of Social Work, College of Education, College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, College of Technology, CLASS*
No appointments
- II. Vice-Presidential Appointment of **Andrew Bahlmann** to the University Hearing Board
Philosophy major. Applied to be on the appellate board- studying ethics and morality. Went to college and worked in municipal government. Subpoenaed and went through courts. Went through hiring of firing of individuals. being involved with sga getting involved with commissions that have impact with judiciary system. Lives on campus, going to be here till graduation.
Senator Chowdhury - Did you research before you applied for it
Baldwin - Familiar that committees are different. More concerned with concept of cheating the system
- III. Appointment Confirmed by Senate.
- IV. Vice-Presidential Appointment of **Mishell Khan** to Center of Student Media Advisory Committee
Not Present
- V. Chief Election Commissioner Appointment of **Andrew Cox** to Associate Election Commissioner
Already helping out commission. Trying to have banners placed throughout Student Center, sophomore in Bauer
Appointment Confirmed by Senate.
- VI. Ballot Measure-51002 *Senate-Executive Committee Amendment* (Pending Committee Review)
Student regent decision had to be made. Have 5 applicants before November 1st. Committee came to a agreement so its composition can be clarified in the Constitution. Creates a standing committee with senate and executive. Committee will meet for student regent applicants and any other power listed in bylaws/constitution.
Senator Chowdhury- 10 person board what happens if it is a tie
President Haston- that is a bylaw issue
Speaker Smith - enumerate that in the bylaws.
Senator Magadi - instead of three elected officers make it two.
Senator Kirchhoff- what happened with student regent process
Speaker Smith - We selected five and then transferred it to the division of student affairs.
President Haston- not a power struggle, it's a collaboration of who it the best student to have the most powerful position.
Senator Kirchhoff - Number of elected vs. appointed. Most people are elected.
Motion to called to question.
Measure passes unanimously.

Clause 9: Closing Remarks

- I. Comments and announcements of the officers
- II. Open Forum
Senator Ramirez - Month long personal event- volunteer projects every weekend - money donated towards Rose Foundation
- III. Closing call of the roll
See attached roster

Clause 10: Adjournment

Adjourned 2051

Position	Name	2/25/2015(Beg)	2/25/2015(End)
Student Body President	Charles Haston	P	P
Student Body Vice President	Erica Tat	A	A
Chief of Staff	Leo Mata	A	A
Director of External Affairs	Charlotte Christian	P	A
Director of Public Relations	Adrian Castillo	A	P
Director of Finance	Adil Rajabali	A	A
Attorney General	Clarita Montant	A	P
Speaker of the Senate	Shaun Smith	P	P
Speaker Pro-Tempore	Sebastian Agudelo	N/A	N/A
Sergeant-At-Arms	Sterling Dodd	A	A
Clerk of the Senate	Bruno Ugaz	A	A
Senator- Undergraduate At-Large, Seat #1	Sebastian Agudelo	E	E
Senator- Undergraduate At-Large, Seat #2	Chelsea Moses	P	E
Senator- Undergraduate At-Large, Seat #3	Alan Garza	E	E
Senator- Undergraduate At-Large, Seat #4	Hugo Salinas	P	P
Senator- Graduate At-Large, Seat #1	Varun Sreenivas	P	P
Senator- Graduate At-Large, Seat #2	VACANT		
Senator- Hines College of Architecture	Issam Kadiwala	P	P
Senator- Bauer College of Business	Sunil Motwani	P	P
Senator- Bauer College of Business	John Fields	P	P
Senator- Bauer College of Business	Pooja Magadi	E	P
Senator- Bauer College of Business	Vidha Dixit	P	P
Senator- College of Education	Geordie Daniel	E	E
Senator- College of Education	VACANT		
Senator- Cullen College of Engineering	Tanzeem Chowdhury	P	E
Senator- Cullen College of Engineering	Clint Kirchhoff	P	P
Senator- Cullen College of Engineering	Nelson Raymond-Grajales	E	P
Senator- The Honors College	Canyon Sanford	P	P
Senator- Hilton College of Hotel & Restaurant Management	Ahmad Shareef	P	P
Senator- College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences	Matthew Wiltshire	E	E
Senator- College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences	Stephanie Bailey	E	E
Senator- College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences	Will Fischer	P	P
Senator- College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences	Matthew Ramirez	E	P
Senator- College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences	Brandon Wilke	P	P
Senator- College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences	Tatiana Lutomski	P	P
Senator- College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences	Jessie Smith	P	P
Senator- College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences	Clement Agho-Otoghile	E	E
Senator- College of Natural Sciences & Mathematics	VACANT		
Senator- College of Natural Sciences & Mathematics	VACANT		
Senator- College of Natural Sciences & Mathematics	Ahren Esquenazi	P	P
Senator- College of Natural Sciences & Mathematics	VACANT		
Senator- College of Technology	Max Ballands	P	P
Senator- College of Technology	Michael Nguyen	P	P
Senator- College of Technology	Bonnie Scott	P	p
Senator- UH Law Center	VACANT		
Senator- College of Optometry	VACANT		
Senator- College of Pharmacy	Lauren Nicole Tolat	E	E
Senator- Graduate College of Social Work	VACANT		