

# Student Government Meeting Minutes

August 1st, 2018

## Clause 1: Call to Order by Presiding Officer

- Present: Senator Mehra, Senator Harricharran, Senator Chang, Senator Adkison, Senator Terrier, Senator Seernani, Senator Akil, Senator Aguilar, Senator Syed, Senator Marin, Senator Bryan, Senator Joslin, Senator White, Senator Lamonte

## Clause 2: Recital of the Alma Mater

## Clause 3: Reading and Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

- Minutes from July 18th, 2018

*Motion to approve the Minutes; All for*

## Clause 4: Special Reports

### **III. Two-minute speeches by the members of the Senate**

*Senator Syed*

- Meeting on August 2nd with the head of Career Services
- Discussing CLASS and Career Fair Initiatives

## Clause 5: Executive and Speaker Reports

### **I. Report of the President**

- Working on another executive order that will further amend the SGA budget
- Looking at purchase of supplies for this and future administrations
- Working on providing food options for those at UH that live close to the poverty line, bill regarding such will be presented during the fall semester

### **II. Report of the Vice-President**

- Vote today on the Campus Recreation & Wellness Center Safety Act
- First read of the Coog Safety Establishment Act
- Further work ongoing with the Coog Companion Act

### **III. Report of the Chief of Staff**

- Working on putting together International Student SGA Social
- Trying to secure metro passes for International Students
- Finding more individuals for the Emerging Leaders Program
- Menstrual Product Price Stabilization Act will be finalized in the Fall

### **IV. Report of the Speaker**

- CLASS Graduation Fair is in the process of being finalized
- Meeting Career Services and representatives from CLASS
- Signups about to be open for the Fair
- Working on improving the mentorship program along with Maysarah

### **V. Report of the Director of External Affairs**

- Voter registration has seen great success
- Applications for UH Day at the Capitol have closed, 30 applicants will be chosen

#### **VI. Report of the Director of Outreach**

- Master List of all RSOs have been compiled
- Still working on shirt donation system where students can trade in shirts for a UH shirt

#### **VII. Report of the Attorney General**

- Master List of all RSOs have been compiled
- Still working on shirt donation system where students can trade in shirts for a UH shirt

### **Clause 6: Committee Reports**

#### **II. Report of the Internal Affairs Committee**

- Discussed final updates to the bylaws
- Discussed constitutional updates
- Went over act being introduced regarding election

#### **IV. Report of the Student Life Committee**

- Formed list of tasks and objectives the committee wants to achieve this coming semester, will be starting these after this meeting

### **Clause 8: New Business**

#### **I. Appointment of Kate Dentler to Chief Justice Position**

- Worked with the congressional campaign
- Vice President of the College Democrats on campus
- Vast experience in regards to politics and balancing work amongst others in order to maximize efficiency
- Wants to make sure all goals are posted on the SGA website along with plans on how said goals will be achieved
- Wants to update the website with all relevant documentation over the years

*Motion to move to previous question ::: Motion passes*

*Appointment of Kate Dentler to the Chief Justice Position; Appointment Passes*

#### **II. Appointment of Niza Garcia to the Campus Recreation Advisory Committee**

- Uses the Recreation Center extensively and knows greatly of all the programs and classes offered there
- Wants to better promote the services available
- Wants to introduce an introductory program at the center that will teach individuals that are new to working out about how to use machines and free weights

*Motion to move to previous question ::: Motion passes*

*Appointment of Niza Garcia to the Campus Recreation Advisory Committee; Appointment Passes*

#### **III. Appointment of Savannah Heistad to the University Hearing Board and the Cougar Card Advisory Committee**

- Vice Chair of the Cougar Card Committee, wants to be appointed in order to carry forward initiatives

- Has experience with Hearing Board position through both on campus and off campus positions
- Working in SGA has lent further ability to better coordinate the aforementioned committees
- Has held an internship with USAA and worked in Ethics Office
- Plans to sit on every Hearing Board “meeting” in order to better understand what the position entails and to get acclimated to it faster

*Motion to extend Q&A time by 3 minutes ::: Motion Passes*

*Motion to move to previous question ::: Motion Passes*

*Appointment of Savannah Heistad to the University Hearing Board Position; Appointment Passes*

*Appointment of Cougar Advisory Committee to the Cougar Card Advisory Committee; Appointment Passes*

#### **IV. The Election Voting Day Adjustment Act (First Read)**

- Act will adjust voting days from the new election code
- Main focus is on making the election voting process easier for both the individuals running and the student body
- Created online voting days in advance of the campaigning
- Bill can always be updated depending on reception of the changes, if it is not well received or effective it can be changed
- Restrictions placed on physical campaigning so as to not bother the students

*Motion to move to previous question ::: Motion passes*

*Motion to send Act back to Internal Affairs ::: Motion Passes*

#### **V. The Meal Plan Price Control and Transparency Act (Vote)**

- Main changes are in regards to restructuring of the Act, previously it was redundant in certain aspects
- All students will be entitled to info regarding meal plan prices

*Motion to move to previous question ::: Motion passes*

*Act Passes (Voting Results at the end of the Minutes)*

#### **VI. The Freely Accessible Textbook Act (Vote)**

- Will get more course textbooks into the library exchange and reserve system
- Trying to increase quantity of course textbooks so it's easier for students to take them out
- Increases amount of time textbooks can be checked out until, will also allow for renewal given no one else is in queue

*Motion to move to previous question ::: Motion Passes*

*Act Passes (Voting Results at the end of the Minutes)*

#### **VII. The Bylaw Update and Structural Reform Act (Vote)**

- Gets rid of redundancy in the bylaws
- Consolidates bylaws that are similar in nature
- Clearly defines the impeachment process
- Increases accountability of SGA members and also better describes budget rules
- Added in usage of gender neutral pronouns

*Motion to move to previous question ::: Motion Passes*

*Act Passes (Voting Results at the end of the Minutes)*

#### **VIII. Better SGA Act**

- Ultimate goal is to simplify certain rules and regulations, previously aforementioned rules were relatively redundant and vague in nature
- Added more seats to the judicial branch and to the undergraduate senator at large positions

- Further amendments and updates will be sent out via email and other communication means to senators in order to receive feedback on what needs to be changed

*Motion to move to previous question ::: Motion Passes*

*Motion to revisit the Act as a second reading next meeting ::: Motion Passes*

## Clause 9: Closing Remarks

### **I. Comments and Announcements from Officers**

*President Barrett*

- Looking for input on these bills so that changes can be made if warranted
- Encourages senators to come to the extra meetings in order to be better informed regarding changes upcoming
- Planning to have regular meetings with the Student Life Committee to gauge student response to these new bills coming out

*Senator Aguilar*

- Resigning from SGA and IA due to a new opportunity that has presented itself

*Speaker Trinh*

- Weeks of Welcome sign-up is currently open, it is mandatory that senators sign up
- Mandatory for senators to attend GLOW party for at least one hour

*Senator Adkison*

- Houston Shakespeare festival going on currently, would highly recommend that individuals attend and spread the word

### **II. Open Forum**

### **III. Closing Call of the Roll**

- *Present: Senator Mehra, Senator Harricharran, Senator Chang, Senator Adkison, Senator Terrier, Senator Seernani, Senator Akil, Senator Aguilar, Senator Syed, Senator Marin, Senator Bryan, Senator Joslin, Senator White, Senator Lamonte*

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*Roll Call Votes*

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### **“The Meal Plan Price Control and Transparency Act” ::: VOTING RESULTS**

**FOR:** Senator Mehra, Senator Harricharran, Senator Chang, Senator Adkison, Senator Terrier, Senator Seernani, Senator Akil, Senator Aguilar, Senator Syed, Senator Marin, Senator Bryan, Senator Joslin, Senator White, Senator Lamonte

**AGAINST:** None

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### **“The Freely Accessible Textbook Act” ::: VOTING RESULTS**

**FOR:** Senator Mehra, Senator Harricharran, Senator Chang, Senator Adkison, Senator Terrier, Senator Seernani, Senator Akil, Senator Aguilar, Senator Syed, Senator Marin, Senator Bryan, Senator Joslin, Senator White, Senator Lamonte

**AGAINST:** None

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### **“The Bylaw Update and Structural Reform Act” ::: VOTING RESULTS**

**FOR:** Senator Mehra, Senator Harricharran, Senator Chang, Senator Adkison, Senator Terrier, Senator Seernani, Senator Akil, Senator Aguilar, Senator Syed, Senator Marin, Senator Bryan, Senator Joslin, Senator White, Senator Lamonte

**AGAINST:** None

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