

Student Government Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2019

Main motion; *All for*

Clause 1: Call to Order by Presiding Officer

- Present: Senator Lewis, Senator Gonzales, Senator Pham, Senator Bryan, Senator Abrams, Senator Barrett, Senator Ramos, Senator Adaya, Senator Morgan, Senator Empomba, Senator Vo, Senator Strohm, Senator Potts, Senator Javed, Senator Saybe, Senator Fuentes, Senator Simmons, Senator Dias, Senator Chukwu, Senator Krothapalli, Senator Khademakbari, Senator Duvall, Senator Williams

Clause 2: Recital of the Alma Mater

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

Motion to amend previous meeting minutes and add Sen. Bryan;; *All for*

-Minutes from April 3rd, 2019

Motion to approve the Minutes; *All for*

Clause 4: Special Reports

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

Senator Khademakbari

- I'm very excited about my Student Life appointment, and I hope to get started soon.

Senator Fuentes

- *I met with undocumented students and I'm working on improving their life on campus*

Senator Dias

- *Hey everyone*

Senator Simmons

- *There is a Houston Police Department campaign*

Senator Pham

- *Sustainability initiatives are going well. There are some volunteer events being hosted please sign up, and I'm working on a sustainability awareness week.*

Senator Gonzales

- *If anyone would like help with their work at NSO's let me know, I am able and willing to help.*

Senator Barrett

- *I'm going up for an appointment today! I had a meeting with the LGBTQ+ resource center and we discussed how we can support transgender students on campus.*

Senator Lewis

-Hey, I'm going up for an appointment today, excited. I had a meeting with international students to learn how best to represent them, and I'm proposing a resolution with the President about Cougar Rides, more on that then.

Senator Javed

- *Coogslam was competing in a poetry contest for the first time and we placed 4th rank out of 58 teams and we are having an open mic next Thursday.*

Senator Morgan

- *I met with the Bauer senators to work on initiatives and we're also looking into improving Cougar Rides.*

Senator Potts

- *Hey guys, I'm going up for an appointment today. I've been working with a vegan student to stop cross-contamination of food in dining areas on campus, and I'm looking forward to helping in the summer senate.*

Senator Chukwu

- *Working on NSM borrowing space and I need help with its name. We are having a lab coat and goggle drive April 22-28th, and I'm looking for organizations that need volunteers if anyone is aware of any please let me know.*

Senator Strohm

- *Hey all, I'm working with Jack on the Cougar Ride resolution.*

Clause 5: Executive and Speaker Reports

I. Report of the President

We are still working on the health services changes and the Green Fund. We are looking at what other universities do to maximize efficiency. We are having a meeting with the wage services about increasing wages. Everyone be sure to help out in Finals Fiesta. Honors Orientation is soon, be sure to help. Student worker bill of rights is in the works along with bylaw edits and a resolution we're presenting.

II. Report of the Vice President

I've been working with International student services, working on the community garden, and creating an alumni mentor program. The pharmacy college is offering volunteer work. University committees are up, be sure to apply, and make sure to re-apply to committees if you want, and AFB has increased its SGA member threshold.

III. Report of the Speaker

I've been working to set up summer senate, make sure to apply, and this volunteer hour bill is important we'll talk about it later.

IV. Report of the Chief Justice

Not much to report, but just make sure everyone volunteers because if you don't you will receive an absence.

V. Report of the Attorney General

We had a meeting about my appointment process and practices it was very enlightening and I understand your views. I am a co-author now on the SGA transparency bill.

VI. Report of the Chief Election Commissioner

I spoke with other universities about the Election Code process and I will be having an election caucus.

VII. Report of the Chief of Staff

Executive agenda is in the works. Powerpoint of executive initiatives is live. We are looking for Emerging Leader (EL) feedback and looking for senators who want to be on the EL committee.

- Deputy Chief of Staff "We are looking for mentors for the EL program, and we're working on a handbook and documentation to keep this program going. I'm also working on HPV vaccine awareness.

VIII. Report of the Director of External Affairs

I'm working on voter registration initiatives on April 22nd and again on the 25th, anyone willing, we need volunteers. Gauging interest for deputizing senators in June and beginning of Fall semester. I'm also hard at work on my disability awareness event, and anyone who is interested please apply for Associate Director of External Affairs.

IX. Report of the Director of Public Relations

We are having a workshop for branding and professionalism. I'll be helping with committee marketing for the summer and tabling for colleges will begin as soon as possible. We received polos and button-ups. Please schedule your picture on the website.

X. Report of the Director of Outreach

We have picked our Associate Director and Liason applications are up. We've talked to majority of old organizations that the previous administration had gotten ahold of. We've talked to college based organizations and thank you to all the senators I met with.

Clause 8: New Business

Motion to amend the agenda to remove UB-56001;;;passes

I. Senate Appointment (CLASS) – Kaitlyn Austgen

- Cornerstone Curriculum will provide assistive technology to underperforming highschools to help fiscally and learning disabled students
- Challenger program is for first-generation students at UH. Includes mentorship and priority registration.
- I mostly took notes with clients and researched for cases at the law cases.

Motion to move to previous question;;;passes

Appointment vote;;;passes

II. University Committee Appointment (AD Bruce Religion Center)

Ethan Smith

Motion to move to the previous question;;;passes

Appointment vote;;;passes

III. Senate Committee Chair Appointment

(Internal Affairs) – Kaden Lewis

- In D.C., I wrote resolutions to call attention in the United Nations to my organization, and I also worked to get injustices addressed.
- I hope students will serve well by coming together on a common goal to have SGA's internal structure work properly.
- I will make sure attendance is kept as is my duty as a chair, and I'd make sure consequences come to those who don't attend mandatory meetings.

Motion to extend Q&A by 5 minutes;;;passes

- A perfect outcome would be once we get to elections, students can look at SGA's internal mechanism and understand that we reflect and represent the student body well.
- I aided the attorney by delivering coffee, preparing paperwork and prepping our clients.
- Yes, I promise to never wear maroon to a meeting again.
- All of my time is committed to SGA, do not believe I will be stretching myself too thin.

Motion to move to the previous question;;;passes

Appointment vote;;;passes

IV. Senate Committee Chair Appointment (Academic Affairs) –

Aidan Potts

- I worked on a bill to add punching bags to the rec, it didn't work out but I understand why it wasn't feasible and couldn't work.
- AA is all things on campus affecting students that do not deal with money directly.
- I'm very good at time management, I work diligently and budget my time well, and SGA is my number one priority.
- The Student Health and Wellness Center is under Student Life jurisdiction while the rec as a whole is Academic Affairs.
- I can commit all of my free time to SGA.
- I will offer resources and keep an open mind for feedback.

Motion to extend Q&A;;;passes

- Delegate members to the correct administrators.

Motion to move to the previous question;;;passes

Appointment vote;;;passes

V. Senate Committee Chair Appointment (Student Life) – Jasmine

Khademakbari

- I will use all of the resources at my disposal to reach out to members of my committee.
- I'd work with the team to help smaller marginalized group and unify the student body at UH.
- I'd make sure events would be marketed properly, based on high traffic areas of certain types of students.
- I would plan to work with the vice chair to find someone with event planning experience.

Motion to extend Q&A;;;passes

- Continue whatever bills that may come through the committee, but I do not currently have policy initiatives.
- I do plan to continue IMLD and keep the passion of the previous speaker with the help of volunteers and willing members of the new administration.

Motion to move to the previous question;;;passes

Appointment vote;;;passes

VI. Senate Committee Chair Appointment

(Administration and Finance) – Tomas Bryan

- I currently have no plans for TPAC, but I will entertain all ideas and outcomes.
- I helped pass the straw initiative, placed sustainability propaganda and worked to eliminate styrofoam from the student centers.
- It's very difficult to increase involvement in my committee but I plan to work hard to do so.
- I've addressed parking prices and my stance is clear.
- Every bill through this committee is important, constant improvement is the goal.
- Senators doing their jobs is good, but work and learning really starts in smaller university committees.

Motion to move to the previous question;;;passes

Appointment vote;;;passes

VII. Senate Committee Chair Appointment

(Graduate and Professional Students)- Cameron Barrett

- I served with the grad student president and worked to create a grad bill of rights and I got gspa appointed reps to grad committees.

Motion to move to the previous question;;;passes

Appointment vote;;;passes

VIII. Speaker Pro-Tempore Appointment – Kaden Lewis

- I will only step in, in cases that the speaker is absent. I will not be able to give myself power.
- I haven't had a large amount of experience but I've been practicing and am dedicated to garnering experience.

IX. SGAB – 56001- Appointment Transparency Act (First Read)

- This mandates positions be open for 5 days minimum and will allow us to make informed decisions.
- I will make sure the language states 5 business days specifically.
- Senators cannot impeach directors, because legislative cannot impeach members of another branch.

Motion to send to IA;;;passes

X. SGAB – 56002- The Electoral Justice and Fairness Bill (First Read)

Motion to extend Q&A;;;fails

- All candidates are responsible for knowing the election code before running.
- Violating the Election Code has no real consequences except a ban from campaigning.
- Only violators will be punished in cases of repeat offenders and Title A cases.
- The Attorney General has multiple checks on their power.
- Class C violations have a number before they're promoted, but not all Class B violations are equal and the verbiage of the bill is to account for that.

Motion to send to IA;;;passes

XI. SGAB – 56003- Increasing Ballot Transparency Act (First Read)

- I was working on randomizing the ballot, but now it's already done.

Motion to send to IA;;;passes

XII. SGAB- 56004- Volunteer Hours Adjustment Act (First Read)

- This will not be proactive, volunteering will not count towards mandatory hours this semester.
- 4 hours are required per semester, fall and spring

Motion to send to IA;;;passes

~~XIII. UB – 56001- The Simplified Bicycles Rental Service Act (First Read)~~

XIV. SGAR – 56001- Administration and Finance Student Ambassador Establishment Resolution (First Read)

- Supports AF Student Ambassador Program

XV. SGAR – 56002- Cougar Ride Shuttle Line Accessibility (First Read)

- We are in support of the Cougar Rides handicap access and want all of their shuttles to accommodate handicap students.
- TPAC is measuring demand and the higher it is the faster this will get done.
- There is no specific disability requirement that is needed, but this change is mostly for students who cannot physically use Cougar Rides.

Clause 9: Closing Remarks

I. Comments and announcements from the officers

- Senator Bryan - Congrats to everyone who was appointed today, A&F vice chair interviews will happen next week message me if interested.
- Senator Barrett - Thanks for appointing me, undergraduates are welcome to message me if interested.

- Senator Khademakbari - I will be holding Vice Chair interviews next week, message me if interested.
- Senator Lewis - Message me for Vice Chair interviews next week.
- Director of Outreach - Look out for a form for college organizations this week.
- Senator Javed - How do we pick committees?, Speaker Do - Once committee times are announced senators will need to choose one primary committee
- Director of Public Relations - Pick up shirts and polos please, and schedule your time for pictures.

II. Open forum

III. Closing Call of the Roll

- Present: Senator Lewis, Senator Chambers, Senator Gonzales, Senator Pham, Senator Bryan, Senator Abrams, Senator Barrett, Senator Ramos, Senator Adaya, Senator Morgan, Senator Epomba, Senator Vo, Senator Strohm, Senator Garcia, Senator Garcia, Senator Vicklund, Senator Mathis, Senator Potts, Senator Javed, Senator Saybe, Senator Fuentes, Senator Simmons, Senator Dias, Senator Chukwu, Senator Krothapalli, Senator Khademakbari, Senator Jackson-Price, Senator Duvall, Senator Williams, Senator Austegn