

UHSGA

Order of Business

57th Administration Agenda

7:00PM Wednesday, January 20th, 2021

Clause 1: Call to Order by the Presiding Officer

I. Opening call of the roll

- Senator Ahmed
- Senator Arias
- Senator Blakely
- Senator Cordero
- Senator Davis
- Senator Haider
- Senator Iroegbu
- Senator Kelly
- Senator Norwood
- Senator Ortiz
- Senator Shuping

Clause 2: Reading and approval of the Senate minutes from the previous meeting

Clause 3: Recital of the University of Houston Alma Mater

Clause 4: Special Reports

I. University representatives wishing to address the Senate

II. Students wishing to address the Senate

III. Guest speakers wishing to address the Senate

- President of UH College Democrats and UH College Republicans – Natalia and Blake:
 - Blake: Thank Guys I'm really appreciate I'll take a couple of minutes here we have to say we know y'all are incredibly busy so will try to move through this as quickly as possible. We're the college Democrats and the college Republicans here on the University of Houston campus. we have several goals including trying to register voters, get people involved in activism, get people to come this guest speaker engage this course and most recently we've been trying to get people to come and watch the debate our organizations are having with each other. you're already involved, Jasmine is going to be one of our moderators. we're incredibly excited and she's willing to do that for us. Just a quick breakdowns what we're going to do: we're going to have two teams of

three, we're going to have three moderators. It will be an hour and half long which will be held in student center south on the 20th of February. the main reason that we wanted to talk to y'all was to talk about some stuff that we would help you help us do with marketing. the debate obviously with the two main political parties involved, we think it will be good for as many students as possible and be able to see their representatives in the political sphere engage with each other. so obviously with COVID, it's pretty difficult to market everything the way that we would do normally go about doing it so we've been putting a big push on social media. So, we would really appreciate it you know if any of y'all can repost we share, retweet on your own social medias. however that could workout, we would also really appreciate if there's any organizations that y'all know of that would be interested in being a part of this or helping us with this or spreading the word about this or anything like that we really appreciate it you know 'cause y'all have such a wide variety of experiences from all of the different parts of the University. Also, you know just word of mouth telling people about our debate is something that we want everyone to do. obviously you are in student government so you know quite a few people. so we would really like that and professor involvement if any of y'all know any professors that would think this is a good idea which I would assume a lot of them would you know if you could get them involved in any way that could help us.

- Natalia: something that really want to prioritize while we're organizing this debate is making sure everyone is safe because of COVID and so we're going to be taking some COVID precautions. We will make sure everybody who's debating is tested and is negative for COVID that's something that we require from all our moderators as well as everyone participating in the debate. We're trying to reach out to the UH testing to make to be sure of how the process is going to go like what their timing is on that we've been reaching out and they haven't really been contacting us back. So, if any of you guys can help us reach out to them that would be a huge help because we have been trying because we want this to be safe as possible, but we're getting kind of silence on that. The other thing is that we also want this to be open, like if anyone has any questions you can ask us questions about the debate about how we're organizing it who's involved if anyone has any questions we can answer.

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

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- Senator Chidester: I hope you all had a great winter break. I have a few updates on the Accessibility committee. So, we have another meeting on Friday with Dr. Harrington and a lot of the upper image staff to talk about some of the things that were in the position. Also, a lot of the sidewalks, for those who've been on campus you may have noticed, would be marked in like they're starting to kind of start fixing them which is really exciting. So, that's really great and we're only start meeting regularly and all of the staff seems to be a lot more excited and ready to actually tackle these issues so that's really good.
- Senator Darbin: Hey everyone, I hope you guys are having a good first week of school. So, I just wanted to make a comment about the discussion we had, very short one. I think right now America is going through a very tense I guess historical or political. And the best way around that the best way to go through this is through discussion and political debate I mean avoiding discussion I don't think would help or make the situation better and you know the the country I come from in Iran we don't get to talk the result freedom of speech and I can assure you things don't get better and that's why people would leave to come to countries like America to have open debate and open discussion as long as it's respectful and a small iterated right and I have two bills that I will I will present in a little bit and I'd be happy to answer any questions.
- Senator Fulce: Hi guys pretty what Senator Darbin. So, today I have two bills that are going up one is going to be shared with Senator Darbin which we're going to present and the other is a bill that the internal affairs committee wrote. So, it's going to be an action-packed side of bills. Also, I hope you guys are having a pretty awesome first week of school. Thank you, guys!
- Senator Hamad: Hey everybody, I hope everyone had a good winter break. I hope you guys are excited to be back and had a great start to the first week of classes. Wish you all the best. Stay safe and take care.
- Senator Miles: As Senator Darbin mentioned, we are all going through a transition time right now. Indeed, free speech is paramount. About what was happening earlier, Free speech is paramount but I'd be remiss if we just gave a platform to a Twitter beef in real life on campus. So, that's what I was concerned about but I hope everyone is having a good first week and is looking forward to 2021.
- Senator Morgan: glad to be back. I hope everyone had a relaxing winter break. Can't wait to see what we accomplish these next few months. Everyone please keep in mind that our time is coming to an end as well. So, just try to work on anything that you can and get things done.
- Senator Sasser: Hello there everybody hope everybody's doing OK as you can tell Robinson's gone on his proxy. Everybody here is beautiful and amazing and intelligent

- Senator Shriem: Hi everyone, I just want to quickly mention that I appreciate the exchange that we got on our social group regarding the upcoming bill. I think we can see that both sides were passionate but still maintain to be respectful. So, I really like that and I think we should do more of that.
- Senator White: Hey everyone, I just wanted to wish everyone a good first week. I just wanted to let you guys know Project FEED is another organization that I'm apart of on campus and I went out with them two weeks ago, the night that it was freezing in Houston, and we were able to hand out 200 warmth packages to Houston's homeless population. So, I hope everyone has a good rest of the night.

Clause 5: Executive, Speaker, Court, and Justice Department Reports

I. Report of the President

- Hey everyone, Happy semester! I know I'm super excited because it is my last second first day ever of undergrad. I know a lot of us are graduating this semester so I'm excited. I'm working on grad school applications, ready to leave although I have loved the time that I've spent at UH. So, I want to talk a little bit about what to expect for this upcoming semester. we are kind of finishing all of our initiatives that we kind of ran on. So, myself and David Paul Hilton are working on international and transfer student membership programs to get the University to take those up for us, if not working on documents to help the next SGA administration take on at least maybe one of those. they'll have to take on for us to continue 'cause initiatives take several years sometimes to get done. it's just the reality of the situation we are hoping to do a parking-food drive sometime this month. there is a lot more people on campus so the way that the food drive will work is that, if you get a parking citation then you'll donate food and we are able to kind of give you a credit so you don't have to really pay for that citation. So, we're hoping to do that within the next couple of weeks. Ive beenworking with parking and transportation for that because I know that relaxed parking is kind of over. So, maybe we might get a lot more students who have parking violations in this month that we want to help out. something else that we're working on is planning for the banquet, I do want the banquet to be in-person and socially distanced just because you know I know that we didn't have a banquet] when we first started, so I'm hoping that we can do an in-person banquet if the situation allows for it. hopefully the vaccine will be well distributed by then so we'll keep our fingers crossed and will plan for both in person and virtual, just in case. talking about COVID testing Julian mentioned earlier we do have COVID testing on campus in front of the student center from what I've seen so if you need to get tested please get tested that's very important. I know some of you guys know that I work in healthcare and we are in a COVID peak right now, it is almost impossible to find beds for patients I know Julian's like definitely agreeing with

me on this right now. it's really hard to find beds in Houston especially around Texas. so please stay safe, please wear a mask, please be aware when you go out because even if the situation isn't affecting you, there are people who don't even have COVID who can't get hospital beds. it's really important for us to kind of think about them in this situation right now. something else that we are working on is a sexual assault prevention awareness campaign. we are hoping to do our tabling every Wednesday and giving out condoms and coasters that test for date rape drugs just so we can kind of raise awareness and try to be safe. So unfortunate but this is something that's rampant in college campuses across the nation, so it's important that we try to combat that as much as we can and talk about consent and keep talking about consent. it's a conversation that apparently needs to be had all the time at college campuses. something else is obviously the UH Democrats and Republicans debates. I just want to reiterate that I will not allow for human rights to be on discussion or even election results to be on discussion. I don't want this to be about Twitter beef, I don't care. I don't think anybody actually really cares about what was said on Instagram, Twitter on social media I think the most important thing is to really emphasize the educational aspect and ideological differences that Democrats and Republicans have and not what fascists believe. there is a very big distinction I don't think we should think that all Republicans are fascists and vice versa. so it's there's a distinction there. what I do want to talk about what happened at the capitol, it is a complete attack on our democracy and I honestly I agree with what Senator Darbin said earlier there are countries I know I'm Iranian as well my dad was a political prisoner in Iran and he got asylum from the US and now he is able to talk about whatever his political beliefs are freely and that's something that's really important to me as well which is why I wanted to be a part of this debate because I think it's really important it's a right that we have in this country that is something that people don't have in other countries. even in where my mom is from in Mexico if you're a student who is really politically active you could show up that the next day like it's something that we take so for granted in this country that I want to encourage as much political discussion as possible without it crossing a line into human rights discussions and things that just shouldn't be talked about. I don't want this to be like a debate that like fascists are in charge of that's not what my intention is at all. so just keep that in mind guys I will be there to kind of look at the questions and make sure that they're not disrespectful or inappropriate anyway. but yeah for the next semester just expect us to keep kind of rolling out these initiatives, finishing up some things that we started in the fall semester and I do really want this to be a time for you guys to come to us with any initiatives that you have and let us help you. And I want this to be about your initiatives this semester. So what you guys want to change on campus, write a bill, even if you don't think it's going

to happen. just write a bill, talk to me about it. let's see what we can do to try to make as much change happen as possible this semester. I really want this to be about helping y'all with your initiatives. so that's all I'll say about it. happy inauguration day! hopefully this is going to be a new chapter for our country and we can move forward and things will get better. So, wear mask and stay safe

II. Report of the Vice-President

- Good evening everyone and happy inauguration day! we have a new president now. Hopefully, things will get better but we don't know so we just got to hope. some stuff that I'm working on includes the Muslim/South Asian support resources bill. I'll either do those separately and have a separate Muslim Bill and separate South Asian bill or I will do both together. it just depends on how many resources I find for each group. so stay tuned for that other than that, you guys remember I talk about reflection spaces a lot. So, we ran into a bit of a deadend and I hope to be opening up the conversation again and getting that pushed through before we are gone in April and then I'm also going to be working on how to appeal an advisor as some of you know I didn't have a great experience with an advisor so hopefully we'll have like a process that we can give to all students. I remember when we first started running for SGA, a lot of students had the concern that their advisors aren't great in their college. so I hope to kind of give students a way to fix that in their colleges, to have like a point of contact or to have a process to kind of appeal an advisor. Another thing is I have the gender pronouns bill going up today. I'm so glad AG Barnett brought that up earlier when we're talking about the debate but yes SGA hopefully does the part by using people's pronouns correctly. it's just good to make people comfortable and I'll talk more about that when the bill comes up for a vote. but that's what I'm up to. hopefully you guys have a great semester. good luck with all your classes!

III. Report of the Speaker

- Alright for my report welcome back long break. pretty sure many of you had very busy winters and I'm glad that we're all back here per semester. unfortunately I did have to cancel one of the winter senate meetings but it's OK. we still got some things done. as far as open Senate seats, I now have an open CLASS seat as my last CLASS senator graduated last semester. so her seat is open. if you know anyone who's in class major and I'm sure all of you know at least one, let them know that they can apply. the application has another seat 2 engineering seats, a public affairs seat, HRM, a social work, an optometry, a nursing and a pharmacy seat so if you know anyone who might be interested, the application on the website has been updated and the agendas and minutes have been updated or senate directory update and the legislation is signed and uploaded. everything should be good to go. if there is something wrong on the Senate directory, that you want me to change. please take a second look at it. when you don't have send

email but if you like to be up there then go ahead and email that to me. besides that I was supposed to do tablings starting today but ran into inconvenience with cars but our tablings will start February 3rd and continue every Wednesday after that. so February 3rd, 10th, 17th etc until March 31st. our last Senate meeting after this enemy we have 5 senate meetings left. so remember to pass a piece of legislation that requires 2 senate meetings. we don't have a lot of time left, our last Senate meeting will be the last day of our administration, March 31st. April 1st will be the next administration. Make sure to attend your committee meetings next week, if you were a newly appointed senator and you never told me what committee you'd like to join, I will be in touch with you to ask you what committee would like to join. If you know you're going to be absent from a Senate meeting or a committee meeting, please let me know ahead of time so your absence will be unexcused and remember that you can only have 6 total absences. Excused or unexcused. So, we're almost at the end please do not get kicked out based on the ground of nonfeasance.

IV. Report of the Chief Justice

- Hi everyone, it's really great to see all of y'all so for my report, I want to shoutout justice Sonia Soto the first Hispanic woman to sit on the Supreme Court, to swear in the first woman of color, an Indian origin to the office of the vice president of the United States today. The other reports that I do have is that the Supreme Court is working with all the associate justices right now to determine how we're going to be hearing cases this semester. So, either it's going to be in-person or online. if it is in- person, we are going to make sure that we follow and obey the COVID-19 policy that we have in place. if you have any questions regarding that please let me know. feel free to email me, if you have my number, text me. That's all that I actually had for my report.

V. Report of the Attorney General

- Hey all. so I have a few short things to say. Firstly, I second what Chief Justice Murphy said we should be very happy. Also, Biden announced Rachel lavine as secretary at HHS that means that she'll be the first federal official that's going to be Senate confirmed that is transgender. So, that is a big step forward and I'm really happy to be living in a place today where queer people and LGBTQ+ people are able to freely be themselves and have a voice in politics because it's been a long battle and it's not yet one but it's definitely getting there in time. so that news made me really happy today. Nextly, I am sponsoring a bill that chief election commissioner wrote about the election code updates. I chose a deputy attorney general that's going up for confirmation tonight. so, his name is Trevor Woeste and he's fantastic. he has a lot of ambition a lot of drive and he's heavily involved and you guys already confirmed him on four position before. he's fantastic I love him and I hope to see him go through tonight. also last thing

please keep me updated on the consensus from all of you as to whether or not we will be using our social medias in order to promote the debate because I'd love to hear what everybody ends up deciding.

VI. Report of the Chief Election Commissioner

- Hey everyone, happy start of the spring semester. so far, I've had 26 people sign up to run, which is really exciting and tell your people to not forget to send in their FERPA's so we can start like checking to see if they can actually run or not. And the natural and sanitary products drive is currently going on. we unfortunately did have a tabling issue but if you have any spare tampons, pads, toothbrushes or any sanitary products in general, you can drop them off at the SGA office. we're looking to working with Houston Aid to like get those sent out to those in need. So, mostly the homeless population in Houston. Sterling and I are working on a black student resource bill which will hopefully be up for a read next Senate meeting, just in time for Black History Month. I know it's usually really controversial to have an election code update this late but I don't really think this one is controversial. we'll see and it'll be up for first read later on tonight.

VII. Report of the Chief of Staff

- Hey everybody, glad to see you in a while. As for my updates, I've been kind of focusing on retention of the organization being a little bit difficult because COVID's kind of keeping people away. Despite that, still a few people showed interest in the organization action, invited them to the meeting tonight. I know at least one of them is here. I'm going to be doing that for the rest of the senate meetings anybody that's interested, I'm going to be inviting to the senate meetings and kind of pushing them towards anybody who's running in the election. so if you guys feel comfortable spreading that information, just let me know and I'll send people your way. Also, on the tabling's Julian mentioned that he messed up actually was my mess up but yeah those tables will be happening. I'm also working with Jessica on just general assistance of any of the bills that are going up like helping the president with anything that she needs, vice president etc. and finally the graduate Bill of Rights, which was one of my first initiatives that I kind of brought back to life. I saw that I got stuck somewhere and I started the conversations again. I didn't do much else besides that but Jon Garcia and I believe the president of the GPSA, Sydney, they fixed it they talked with the gradual Bill of Rights team Dean Larson knows there for a couple of those talks and now it's in a finalized state and it's going up for I believe her first read today.

VIII. Report of the Director of External Affairs

- Hey everyone, I hope you all had a good break. so for my report I'm going to be telling all of you about some things that I'm going to be working on going forward. if any of you are interested in any of the things that I'm going to be

working on, please feel free to reach out. I'd love your help with any of it. So firstly, in past administrations we've had special speakers come to talk to the SGA during Senate meetings. So, for example mayor Turner served as actually the speaker of the Senate for the USGA like a long time ago and often comes to speak to current SGA members at Senate meetings. So, I was thinking of inviting him to come and speak again but I'm also open to taking requests for other speakers from all of y'all. So, if there's anyone obviously within reason of course I can't get you know everybody that you may request but I'll make sure that if you send in a request of someone that you'd like to see speak at the Senate meetings and I'll make sure to reach out to them. I'm also looking into scheduling a volunteer deputy voter registrar training for everyone in SGA that's interested. this training allows you to register other people to vote and it's super useful. This will be the third year that I've done it, it's only an hour long training and I'm thinking about scheduling it to be either an hour before an upcoming Senate meeting or possibly on a Wednesday between Senate meeting so like an off week at 7:00 PM. I'm going to be sending messages in the group to sort of gauge interest to get sort of account for how many people would be attending and to see when works best to schedule the training. I'll probably send those tomorrow so please respond to those messages. I'm also going to be working to put together resource list for students with disabilities somewhere to the resource list that Jasmine put together for Latinx students and. If anyone else is interested in helping or contributing to the LGBTQ+ list feel free to reach out I'd love your help. Lastly, I know that it's a little early but I'm going to start working on my department's transition materials for the next administration as an SGA director so if anyone is at all interested in the position, I'm willing and free to talk with you. I've been in SGA for a long time since I believe the 54th administration actually which is I think longer than anyone else currently in SGA, I love to put that knowledge base to use and serve as a resource for anyone that has any questions, especially about the exec. this will be my 4th administration in the exec so if you have any questions I'd love to help. please feel free to reach out.

IX. Report of the Director of Public Relations

- Hey guys welcome back I'm going to try to keep this as quick as possible please just follow instructions and we'll get over this really quickly at this time I'm requesting you guys to turn on your camera's if you can that would be amazing. We will be holding a coogs sign on camera for a screen recording with and without masks on. This was a part of a video project that I am working on. Instead of making little clips of everything that we have been working on this administration, I decided to make a 2-minute video that incorporates and involves everything that we have been doing. Unfortunately, this will take about 2 months to make but it will be very cool and worth it. Hopefully, this will inspire the future

administrations to keep supporting our organization. So, if you're interested in acting or being an extra for this video, just let me know. As for my report, President Khademakbari and I are working on designing and ordering some graduation stoles. So, those of you that are graduating, we hope that you have the stoles. Our next big event is Valentine's Day and we're working on making goodie bags that will contain condoms, chocolates and all that good stuff to promote safe sex. When it comes to marketing the debate, I am planning on marketing it simply because Jasmine's a moderator and I trust her judgment. Whether we're going to call it a debate or an event, we're going to debate about that later on but they will be up on her socials. if you have any questions, let me know.

X. Report of the Director of Outreach

- Hello everyone. Happy Inauguration Day! Welcome back to the spring semester. I'm looking forward to watching you all and please reach out to me if you need help.

Clause 6: Committee Reports

I. Reports of the Academic Affairs Committee

- Nothing to report

II. Reports of the Internal Affairs Committee

- Let me start off with a little bit of a story. once I became senator I had stars in my eyes and I thought I was going to change the world but when I really got here, it starts setting in, thinking about stuff I realized a lot of my initiatives were not the best. So, that's why when I was appointed internal affairs chair, that's why I made it a point to add a whole portion about bill writing. So, every meeting we all come together, we write a bill and as a result at last meeting we ended up creating a transition plan bill. So, that's a little taste of what we have cooking. we have a couple of extra ideas and if you guys are interested in potentially joining us feel empowered to hit me up, you'll fit in right with the team because it's a pretty nice group.

III. Reports of the Student life Committee

- We don't have anything other than meetings starting next week and if y'all would like to join contact senators Sandra, Jonathan or speaker Cheng.

IV. Reports of the Administration and Finance Committee

V. Reports of the Graduate and Professional Students Committee

- Som no updates other than the bill that's going to be introduced today regarding the graduate student Bill of Rights. Grad students in SGA, if you're on the call be prepared for next week have a meeting regarding that but I'll talk more about the bill when it is introduced.

Clause 7: Unfinished Business

Clause 8: New Business

I. Justice Department Appointment (Deputy Attorney General) – Trevor Woeste

- Hello everybody! I'm back some honor to be picked by our wonderful attorney general. Also, just going over I've been involved with SGA since the summer which President Khademakbari can tell you about, I was one of the first people to join her during the cougar carnival. I've been involved in the activities funding forward, I'm also part of the Cullen performance Hall and Brittany came to me frankly and she asked me if I wanted to be her deputy attorney general and I liked the sound of it so then I filled in my application and I would say I'm just excited to serve and to make sure they have a clean election. I think it will also be very interesting because it's going to be digital election and changes are going to be very minimal. online real-life campaigning will be really interesting to make sure that we're on top of it and making sure regulating them as need be to make sure if there's any problems they get fixed quickly. So, if you have any questions please reach out.
- *Motion to move to previous question; passes*
- *Justice Department Appointment (Deputy Attorney General) for Trevor Woeste; passes unanimously*

II. UB – 57006 – Activities Funding Board Reform (Third Read)

- The goal of the bill is to better incentivize student organizations in their activities and help them be with their mission statement which is to increase campus vibrancy, an inclusion for the students and one of the main challenges for many student organizations is you know having the initial funding to purchase necessary items or subscriptions or memberships that they need to run their organization which is specially a bigger challenge for smaller student organizations that can't raise this money through their members right now. DFB provides \$3000 per organization for every academic year and \$1000 for every four attending conferences and also another \$1000 limit for every event. So, those are the two limits for the fundings but the problem is they can only be requested for events. so if organizations wanted to purchase something subscription or any any other thing necessary that they could use throughout the semester or throughout the year they can't do it. So, this is like the third time I'm bringing the bill to the Senate but the changes I've made since the last Senate meeting, I think it was like by the end of December. So, I talked to Julian and we changed the language of the bill. So, instead of saying that it's being enacted by the DFB to make this changes, I wrote the SGA is calling on DFP to make this changes so that's the main change I made from the last Senate meeting and I also got support from more than 20 registered student organizations that said they support the bill and some of them are really interested. They even followed up, they wanted to

know what happens with the bill. I also reached out to Dr. Walker earlier today. he responded saying that once the bill is passed it has to go through SFAC. so that's something to work on after it's done. last year there was \$80,000 surplus mainly because of the COVID-19 and closing the campus for this year as of now there is more than one 30,000 surplus that could be used for student organizations. So, I think this bill could help a lot with allocating these funds and making sure they're used to enhance the experience of students.

- *Motion to send UB – 57006 to SFAC*

III. UB – 57007 – The Ratification of the Revised Graduate Student Bill of Rights (First Read)

- So, essentially a little background on the graduate bill of rights. so during the 55th administration, it was ratified by SGA and by an election campus wide and so there was initial document that was created by students and faculty to establish what rights and responsibilities graduate students have. when it was sent to or when we were trying to implement it, there were some issues from UH's legal Department regarding some of the language in our initial document. it included phrases such as like grad students have a right to healthcare or like affordable health care and stuff like that we believe we deserve we have a right to but stuff that's not supported by UH policy at this time. So, the main issue at hand was that some of these provisions that we were stating's rights were not necessarily rights already by age policy and so thanks to the help of Chief of Staff White and to the former author of the grad Bill of Rights as long as well as with GPS saying what not we revised the document and sent it to UH's Legal Department to separate and you'll see that in the document. If you see the attached document that there's a section saying what rights grad students currently have and then a section saying what rights we believe we deserve and we want to reach some point and so that was reviewed by legal and apparently legal is currently OK with that. the graduate and professional student committee which is the University wide committee would like to vote on this revised document, but they wanted approval first from the PSA as well as SGA and that totally makes sense. so this is the document and the actual bill is just stating that this is a revised document this was the history of it and that this document should replace what's currently on the on RSG website. so currently we have the older document on there and that should be replaced by this current document. so that's like an internal change but aside from that, that's basically where we're at right now. it's essentially the same document just kind of divided so that there's not those issues in the future.

- *Motion to send this to Graduate and Professional Committee; passes*

IV. SGAB – 57016 – Transition Plan Bill (First read)

- Thank you guys for giving me the opportunity to speak. So, after last committee meeting myself, senator miles, senator Robinson and also associate justice Torres

all came together, and we started thinking about what are some things that can actually be improved here at the student government Association. one of the things we came up with was adding a transition bill. Normally, we all know how things work the president of this administration and the president of the next administration sit down together, chat a little bit about some initiatives and make sure that everything is in order. But what we plan on doing with this bill is formalizing that process. Naturally, in a conversation some things are left out, some things are forgotten and some things end up staying in Limbo. So what this document would do is require the internal affairs committee to come down and write a transition plan document including such materials as the name of the bill, legislative intent. Basically, what the writer was thinking when they made this bill stuff. Also, the content, it's progress level important and also hopefully any like conflicts with any other bills. another thing that we'd like to add is we would like to require the president to present this document to the next president to make sure that there's no misunderstandings and nothing gets slipped between the cracks. Finally, the most important part is after everything is set up, we want the next speaker of the Senate to send out this transition plan document so that everyone in the Senate can actually know that these are some additions that could potentially tackle this ground has been treaded on, let's see if we can improve it. So, those are the main core aspects of the transition plan bill.

- *Motion to send this to Internal Affairs; passes.*

V. SGAB – 57017 – Election Code Updates (First Read)

- Basically, this bill just clarifies the process that we use within the election Commission and those are some potential equals that I saw within the election code and then it also makes it easier for me to help independent candidates by just getting an opportunity to actually connect with parties ahead of time before the deadline. So, I'm not going to read through it or anything. I also provided some notes for you all to read as well just so you get like a better idea of what I was thinking with these changes.
- *Motion to send this to Internal Affairs; passes*

VI. SGAB – 57018 – Senate Appointment Clarification Act (First Read)

- I'm pretty sure we can all agree that senator and speaker Cheng has been doing an excellent job. he's been basically making sure that everything is running smoothly, the website is updated in a timely manner and he actually communicates with candidates and all that type of stuff but what this bill is trying to do is safeguard against people that aren't as great as senator Cheng. We may have a speaker of the Senate five years from now that won't be as great as our current speaker and we want to make sure that this office and the speaker has that same level of professionalism and excellence that we've had the precedent set for this year. likewise it's very important to have accurate information. If people who

are applying don't know that these seats' are open or that position's open, how are they going to join the organization. how can I add value and bring us from an already excellent organization to an outstanding one. how can we get better if we don't give people the opportunity to come in. likewise, this bill also has another side of it. As we all know, especially the senators that were appointed like myself, we all know that there was a lot of people a lot of competition and as a result due to the law of supply and demand, not everyone could sit here and be a senator. As a result one of the things we're pushing is the fact that any candidate that actually submits an application be given a couple of important information such as what the whole appointment process is as a whole, going from sending an application to interview, speaking before the Senate to being confirmed. So, we want to make sure that there's no ambiguity of what the steps are. Likewise, we want to make sure that everyone's in the note. Unfortunately, it really does suck to find out that you didn't make it in, try again next time. So, what we're trying to do is make sure that everyone, even though it hurts, it's an awkward situation to be in admittedly. we want to make sure that everyone be given that step side of dignity, instead of having to wait for a rejection email. that's the main core of the bill and the purpose that we wrote this bill in the 1st place is the reason was having seen the experiences where the speaker did not update the website or communicate in a timely manner and I'm talking about like the previous speakers. Personally, when I applied for the SGA I think sometime in the beginning of November 2019 and then I came for appointment four months later sometime during February. These four months I thought I wasn't getting good communication from the speaker and there were many similar cases like that too. So, we did try to keep it short and not be too specific, we just mostly tried to define the minimum expectation from the from the speaker to update the website and to respond in a timely manner to the applicants. I think there are many other same clauses in the bylaws and in the constitution like their whole page for the appointing process of example the Chief Justice by the president or it's only general by the Chief Justice and it goes into much more detail. So, what we have added here is not too detailed or too redundant. the most important thing about this bill is encouraging or making sure it's easier for students who don't know anyone in SGA and making this whole process easier.

- *Motion to send this to Internal Affairs; passes*

VII. SGAB – 57015 – Gender Pronouns Bill (Vote)

- This is going to be a gender pronoun bill and essentially this just would require me, the vice president, to include a section on every application that asks for someone's pronouns. this is just a good way to kind of open up a dialogue and help people feel more accepted and more comfortable because I know there was one instance where Sterling and I were concerned that we may be using the wrong

pronoun and the person maybe didn't want to speak up. I don't want anyone to feel uncomfortable speaking up, I don't want someone to feel as if they can't speak up just because they believe the fate of their like application to a committee is in their hands, it would feel awkward and weird. So, that's the main intent behind this bill. Also, I read somewhere that when people in power start making these small changes of acceptance then these things make other people feel more comfortable asserting themselves or talking about things that are kind of taboo or uncomfortable. Not that we are super powerful but still I just thought it would be good for students to feel accepted, especially at our very diverse University and I've always felt accepted here. So, I want that for everyone so that's pretty much it. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

- *Motion to move to previous question; passes*
- *SGAB – 57015 – Gender Pronouns Bill passes unanimously*

Clause 9: Closing Remarks

I. Comments and announcements of the Officers

- President: hey guys, I hope everybody had a great meeting. if you guys need any help with any initiatives, please let me know. if you guys need anything, I'm here for y'all. If you're running in the next election or know anybody who's running, I'd be happy to give any election advice whatsoever. So, please reach out to me if you guys need anything and have a great semester! I know it's online and there's no Interim Grading policy. So, try really hard this year to get that 4.0.
- Vice President: Hey everyone, thank you guys so much for unanimously passing my bill. I'm really glad that we all agree that accepting and creating an environment of acceptance is very important to us. So, I'm very glad other than that let me know if you guys want to work on any of the initiatives that I talked about at the beginning. Please talk to any Exec member, if you have any questions about any initiatives or anything like that. have a great semester. See you guys next senate meeting
- Speaker: As far as my report, I am trying to aid banquet planning an in-person banquet. I'm also thinking of having an in-person Senate meeting towards the end of our administration. I will probably gauge interest on that. Besides that, I still have an open CLASS seat. if you know anyone who is a CLASS major, please let them know. I've got an open honor seat, two engineering check the directory it is updated.
- Chief Justice: Hey everyone, this was a great Senate meeting. just something to clarify what Julian mentioned earlier. Again, if you do want to run for office please let the exec know. Unfortunately, my position you cannot run for you but have to be an associated justice to take the seat of Chief Justice. But, if you want to be on the Supreme Court, please let me know that you are interested. there will

be seats that will be vacant after the spring semester. So, please get with me if you are interested. Overall, please have a safe night.

- Attorney General: Thanks for confirming my candidate. Thanks for attending the meeting. Have a good night. Wee you guys next senate meeting.
- Chief Election Commissioner: So I updated the election date schedules on the SGA website and I'm also going to put it on all of our socials. I just wanted to say that if any of these bill interest you and you want to show up to a committee meeting, please feel free to do so. The committee meetings are open to everyone. Lastly, don't forget to fill out your FERPA's if you're running so we can start the process.
- Chief of Staff: I just wanted to say that it was a great meeting, glad to be back to it. I do want to shout out Trevor for being appointed, he was one of my Emerging Leaders and I just wanted to say that the emerging leaders that have stuck around for this while, I really appreciate you guys. Have a good night
- External Affairs: Nothing additional to add so good meeting everyone and have a good rest of your night.
- Public Relations: Hey guys, great meeting. Thank you so much for participating. You guys are so nice. If you have any initiatives that need promotion, let me know.
- Senator Fulce: I really appreciate all of the feedback that we were getting from the bill. Make sure you come out to the internal affairs meeting that we're having on Monday at 7:00 PM. I know that there was a lot of passion, a lot of changes that we could potentially add and I love to hear all of these. So, for the link make sure hit me up, I got you. have a nice night.
- Senator Sasser: Ladies and gentlemen, we did it! it is the first meeting of spring 2021. I know it's going to be another great semester; we're going to achieve so much. I know we're going through a lot, but we got each other. we got everybody in this administration.

II. Open Forum

- Guest Speaker Blake: I just wanted to thank you all for letting me speak to you guys.

III. Closing Call of the Roll

- Senator Ahmed
- Senator Arias
- Senator Blakely
- Senator Cordero
- Senator Davis
- Senator Haider
- Senator Iroegbu
- Senator Norwood

- Senator Miles
- Senator Pineda
- Senator Ortiz
- Senator Shuping
- Senator Ubina

Clause 10: Adjournment