

UHSGA

Order of Business

57th Administration Agenda

7:00PM Wednesday, May 20, 2020

Clause 1: Call to Order by the Presiding Officer

I. Opening call of the roll

- Senator Hilton (*Absent*)
- Senator Kelly (*Absent*)
- Senator Morgan (*Absent*)
- Senator Sasser (*Absent*)

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

Motion to approve; *passes*

Clause 3: Recital of the University of Houston Alma Mater

Clause 4: Special Reports

I. University representatives wishing to address the Senate

- *vacant*

II. Students wishing to address the Senate

- Senator Sasser: *I got off with the board with the CSD if anybody would like to assist in trying to find an organization that spread awareness among fellow Coogs about their veteran status and if they have any disabilities, they need to contact CSD for more assistance. If you know any programs, please let us know.*

III. Guest speakers wishing to address the Senate

- Tomas Bryan: *Hey everyone, I'm a recent graduate from UH as of 2 days ago. I'm here to address the senate to talk about the importance and my experience with committees. I joined SGA with Cameron Garrett as the President 3 years ago. My main goal was to learn as much about the University of Houston as possible and I achieved that by being active in committees. I was most involved in the Student Advisory Committee. These committees are there for you to learn and take charge of things that are going. You have a voice, utilize it. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask away.*

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

- Senator Ahmed: *Hope everyone and their families are doing well and staying safe. Not sure how long this is going to last but as long as we work together as a team, we can accomplish anything. Really excited for what we will be doing this summer. Stay safe!*
- Senator Aldulaimi: *Hey guys, thank you for joining, as of today I have no updates*
- Senator Arias: *Hey guys, I hope everyone is doing okay and staying safe. I'm excited for what the summer has to bring. Thank you.*

- Senator Castro: *Hi, I don't have much to say but hi that's all :)*
- Senator Chidester: *Hey everyone, I don't have any new updates but I hope everyone is doing well and if you need help with anything please reach out. I'm excited to be working with you this summer.*
- Senator Darbin: *Hey guys, hope everyone is doing okay. Senator Fulce and I are going to be speaking with CLASS about some of our initiatives, so if you guys want to join us or want to discuss your initiatives with us, feel free to contact us. Thank you.*
- Senator Davis III: *Hope everyone is doing well mentally, physically and spiritually. I have no new updates at the moment. I am still in the lab.*
- Senator Duvall: *Hi everyone, hope everyone is safe. I'm happy to see you guys at the summer senate. Thank you!*
- Senator Fulce: *Hi guys, hope everyone is doing well in these times. Keep family close and be appreciative. I've had the chance to broker a deal between myself, the Rockwell career center and Bauer Ambassadors, who mentioned they will need assistance with advertising through the SGA. Also, Senator Darbin and I are meeting with the Associate Dean of CLASS, feel free to join us. As the Associate director of Outreach, I've been working on certain May Initiatives with the Director of Outreach. Let me know if you guys need help meeting up with any administrators. Thank you.*
- Senator Garcia: *All my updates are Committee-related so I will wait to discuss them until later.*
- Senator Gil: *Hey y'all, hope everyone is doing great and staying safe. I hope to have a good summer.*
- Senator Hamad: *Hey guys, how are you? I hope everyone is staying safe and finished this semester strong. If you're taking summer courses, good luck with that and looking forward to listening to all your ideas*
- Senator Kim: *Hey guys, I hope everything is well. I have no updates but I will be talking to an academic advisor for College of Education. I'm excited to work with you this summer.*
- Senator Lopez: *Hi guys, I hope y'all are doing well. I hope finals went well, and if you're taking summer classes, Good Luck!*
- Senator Medrano: *Hey everybody! Stay safe, stay indoors and do good on summer courses. I'm looking forward to a lot of things this summer. I, recently, got in contact with other UH systems' current SGA presidents. There will be a zoom call with the UH-Clearlake, so please reach out if you want to attend.*
- Senator Robinson: *Hey y'all, just wanted to say I'm really grateful that so many of you all decided to do the summer senate and stay on board during this time.*
- Senator Sasser: *Hello there everybody, I hope everyone is doing a-okay. I hope everybody is somewhat alive even though we're all slowly dead inside from being*

trapped inside. Besides that, looking forward to what the Summer Senate will be like and to work with you.

- *Senator Shuping: Hey how's it going? Update in the college of music is that one of our long term professor just retired so they are trying to hire someone and establish that connection with him for the policies for the school of music. Everyone have a good day!*
- *Senator Wolfe: Hey guys, I just want to say happy summer. Other than that, I have no reports.*

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

I. Report of the President [14:43]

- *Welcome to the first summer senate meeting! Thank you for your dedication to this organization and I look forward to see all the great work done this summer. I want to start this meeting by remind all of you to be conscious about your health as the United States is leading the world in COVID-19 deaths. So, even though things are starting to go back to normalcy, it is still really important to practice Social Distancing. If necessary, to go out, wear a mask and appropriate protection gear to protect yourself. By practicing social distancing, you are potentially saving lives so please continue to do so and keep your community safe.*
- *If you want to actively help out your community, University of Houston- College of Medicine is currently offering a free certificate for Contact Tracer that the Harris County is currently hiring to help contain the virus.*
- *Excited to announce that we have completed our first platform initiative. SGA in partnership with International Student and Scholar Services Office has created UH's first International Student Mentorship Program. To implement the Program, I wrote an executive order to create an international Student task force. This task force will consist of four SGA Appointees, member of ISSS office, and the president of SGA. Task force will be working to find and recruit mentors for the program, match mentors with mentees, plan training, workshops and socials. If you're interested, application is on Get Involved. Meetings will be biweekly. Reach out if you have any questions.*

II. Report of the Vice-President

- *Attended committee meetings, some of them will be continuing during the summer so look out if you are in a University Committee over the summer*
- *Couple of students will be going up for Student Committee today. Jon Garcia, senator, being one of them who shows great passion for the Graduate school and a lot of confidence in his candidacy. Christina Dias, the candidate for the Food Services committee, has had previous experience with the committee and has developed great contacts in the field. The applications for the University committee is updated daily, so check it out if you are interested. Reach out if you have any questions.*

- *Met up with NRM students. She's working with the office of the Dean and students to see where the student government and that office can be partnered to accomplish platform initiatives and she learned a lot from NRM dean of Students.*
 - *President and the Vice President have been working on international student mentorship program. Everyone is strongly encouraged to join.*
 - *Also, working on the Cougar Pack to make sure it continues to serve students.*
- III. Report of the Speaker
- *Hopes finals went well. All of the committee meetings and caucuses went pretty well. There were a few absences, which leads me to remind the senators to read the bylaws section about attendance which we will be following pretty strictly.*
 - *We looked at the bylaws closely to see if there were any inconsistencies. We fixed some things and supporting documents that highlights the changes that were made were sent in the appropriate group chat.*
 - *Standing rules and the supporting document will go up for the vote today.*
- IV. Report of the Chief Justice
- *Attended the internal affairs committee and enjoyed collaborating with the SGA for the bill that we believe helps function the requirement of the Court.*
 - *Co-operations with the senate requiring bill signing process is highly encouraged.*
 - *Best of luck to everyone going up for Nominations today.*
- V. Report of the Attorney General
- *Applications for the Chief Election Commissioner is in the process. There're interviews taking place as soon as possible. Senators and those who are in the Law field are encouraged to apply.*
 - *Election changes, including a couple of bylaw changes, regarding financial limits were suggested which will later go for vote.*
- VI. Report of the Chief Election Commissioner
- *Vacant*
- VII. Report of the Chief of Staff
- *Met with Dr. Meza, Monica Thompson and Gaston Renoso, the head of HR, Career Services and administration of finance, and pitched my ideas to which they were pretty receptive so we're going to be doing that including some new workshops for employee regimen.*
 - *Graduate Bill of Right is waiting for response for the GPSA but we know the status of where the bill is.*
- VIII. Report of the Deputy Chief of Staff
- *Working with Chief of Staff outlining and detailing of the Emerging Leaders program.*
 - *Working on the SGA newsletter. The first edition will be out June 1st, from then on it will be a monthly thing. Providing feedback is appreciated and encouraged.*
- IX. Report of the Director of External Affairs

- *Working with Move Texas on voter registration*
- *Working on Student Worker Bill of Rights*
- *Planning a UH-System SGA Conference.*

X. Report of the Director of Public Relations

- *Hope summer is well, so far for Instagram we made posts appreciate everyone contributing with the interactions online which helps a lot getting people to be inclined to join and show a supportive community, especially for the upcoming freshmen to determine which organization they would want to put their time into.*
- *Working on getting programs and flyers ready for mentorship ready and get them out, working on interactive posts, and get information out on mental health awareness month.*

XI. Report of the Director of Outreach

- *Hopes everyone's summer is good.*
- *Conducted interviews for the Director of Outreach position and selected Zachary Fulce. I made this selection as he is an involved member of the SGA and has on and off campus experience which makes him a great candidate for the position.*
- *Also conducted interviewed for the Outreach Liaison position and selected Vivek Patel. I made this selection because he is a very promising candidate due to his involvement on campus as a student with a great on and off campus experience. This experience will help SGA build relationships with RSO's and USO's. The website has been update with both of the candidates contact information. During the break they will be helping out PR with the mental health awareness.*
- *Thank you everyone for timely submission of the photos for the websites*
- *Spoke to my Department on drafting a plan on end the stigma to increase engagement on the event. The draft is completed and in the process of starting the outreach.*
- *Also, spoke to my department to figure out a plan for getting a 1100 "end the stigma" t-shirts*
- *Completed the Salesforce Spreadsheet of all the territories and accounts for my outreach department that I ought to reach out to.*
- *If anyone knows of any organizations or anyone who would be willing to donate t-shirts for the "end the stigma" t-shirt, please contact me.*
- *USO's are almost done with selecting student leaders so I will be reaching out to those leaders. Another Liaison spot under me is open if you are interested, please reach out.*

Clause 6: Committee Reports

I. Reports of the Standing Committees

a. Academic Affairs Committee:

- *Still in the process of deciding what we would like to do toward the emergency debut, we will be working on that over the summer*
- *If there's any ideas towards any of the initiatives, please reach out.*

- b. Internal Affairs Committee:
 - *The Supreme Court Efficiency Bill is going up for a read today.*
 - *Want to work on parliamentary procedure handbook which will highlight important and condensed information on SGA and how its run for the students to learn efficiently from.*
- c. Student life committee:
 - *working on their own initiatives to help each other, meetings are on Tuesday at 6p if anyone would like to join.*
- d. Administration and Finance Committee:
 - *Been trying to help out with initiatives and make sure SGA completes the goal they planned. Everyone is free to join our meetings on every other Wednesdays*
- e. Graduate and professional student committee:
 - *Recently appointed to GPSA which will improve the communication between us.*
 - *The status of the Graduate Student Bill of Rights is currently UH Legal has some issues with the document passed by the SGA and GPSA. In the recent meeting with the Dean of the Graduate School and GPSA, we are working on scheduling a meeting with UH Legal to see what the issues with the document were and how it can be fixed. This might be an issue regarding wages but we will be trying hard on fighting for that.*
 - *GPSA is planning a graduate school-wide town hall which should be happening first week of June. I'll try to get a partnership with GPSA for that.*

II. Reports of the Select Committees

Clause 7: Unfinished Business

Clause 8: New Business

- I. University Committee Appointment (Graduate and Professional Studies) – Jon Garcia
 - *Motion to move previous Question; passes*
 - *Jon Garcia for University Committee Appointment Graduate and Professional Studies: passes*
- II. University Committee Appointment (Food Services Advisory Committee) – Christina Dias
 - *Motion to move previous Question; passes*
 - *Christina Dias for University Committee Appointment Food Services Advisory: passes*
- III. Judicial Appointment (Chief Justice) – Edward Munoz

- Been a member of SGA for all of undergrad years. Started off as an alternate Justice, then became Associate Justice. Now, I feel ready and experienced enough to become a Chief Justice.
- Currently a full-time employee at San Jacinto College and Full-time student at University of Houston.
- I want to be able to lead our court just like the previous Chief Justices
- *Motion to move previous Question; passes*
- *Edward Munoz for Chief Justice: passes*

IV. Judicial Appointment (Associate Justice) – Esteban Rodriguez

- As a Justice, I will have an open mind and have no pre-conceptions about certain issues that could possibly lead to an unfair judgement. Just the education that I am receiving at the University of Houston will help me progress as an Associate Justice successfully. This year will be a very interesting year and I am looking forward to serving as the Associate Justice, if given the opportunity to.
- *Motion to move previous Question; passes*
- *Esteban Rodriguez for Associate Justice: passes*

V. UB – 57001 – The International Student Support Act (First Read)

- This bill summarizes the purpose of a mentorship program. International students face unique challenges related to but not limited to cultural isolation, language barriers, social differences and home sickness. This program will help international students face those challenges in an effective manner meanwhile providing them with a supportive environment. Taking the statistics from other schools, this program should work effectively in helping international students feel comfortable.
- *Motion to send it to Student Life; passes*

VI. SGAB – 57003 – The Bylaw Reform Act (First Read)

- This Act is a fix on grammatical, formatting and inconsistencies issues found in the Bylaws document. Changed the GPA requirements for SGA member to “good academic standing” as the constitution states. The section regarding the town hall meeting was taken off as it wasn’t utilized as much. Regarding Summer Senate, addition of excessive absences will cause the senator to be removed effectively, not effecting the Fall/Spring Terms. Also, the absences allowed was changed from 5 and 3 to 4 and 2 as we are having more senate meetings this year. Recall of the speaker, was also updated. Any additional caucuses may be established with the advice and consent of simple majority of the senators composing the caucuses. The Vice Chair will serve as the presiding officer in cases where the chairperson is unavailable, and the Vice Chair will carry out any committee work as delegated by their Committee Chairperson. All committee appointments will need to be done individually. Applications will be made by the Vice President. Please bring up any questions you have and reach out.
- *Motion to send it to Internal Affairs; passes*

VII. SGAB – 57004 – Election Adjustments Act (First Read)

- Election changes include the change in first clause which fixed the ambiguity of the clause by adding authority clarifications, the rewording of the section regarding the amending rights, Article 3 Section 6 Clause 8 and 9 which clarifies any ambiguity regarding the announcing the members, anything having to do with the interpretation of the University Policy of the Election code is the responsibility of the Attorney General, eradicated the clause regarding the labeling of party name. Another big change was shrinking voting days to 3 days from 7 days. Another change regarding timely submission of complaints regarding elections. Proposed the changes regarding the expenditure limits. Swept off unnecessary and redundant things. Itemizing the expenditure reports and reporting of self-donation on expenditure reports was made emphasis on. Following the timelines of office hours was also made emphasis on. Cannot appeal decisions on lack of merit. Establishment of Appeal timelines. Addition of lower court in Supreme court. Two Bylaw changes including the addition of duty for Attorney General to request and investigate the receipts of the expenditure and deletion of public defender position.
- *Motion to extend to 5 minutes; passes*
- *Motion to send it to Internal Affairs; passes*

VIII. SGAB – 57001 – 57th Student Government Association Standing Rules (Vote)

- When a harmful thing about the candidate is said, the Speaker representing the office is allowed to strike that question. If the senate finds the striking unnecessary, they can vote for striking of the strike so the question can be asked.
- *Motion to move to previous question; passes*
- *SGA Standing rules Bill passes*

IX. SGAB – 57002 – Supreme Court Efficiency (Vote)

- This Bill increases efficiency of Supreme Court to hear cases during election season by lowering the amount of justices needed for the hearing. Also, this has been approved by most of the Supreme Court Justices.
- *Motion to move to previous question; passes*
- *SGA Supreme Court Efficiency Bill passes*

Clause 9: Closing Remarks

I. Comments and announcements of the Officers

- President: *Thank you for a great meeting. The International Student Support act in the group chat if you are interested in Sponsoring the bill please interact with the message and I will add your name to the Sponsor list. Also, please apply to the taskforce if you want to have a more active role. Excited for this Summer.*
- Vice President: *I have been working hard on filling the committees and committees are a great way to get involved and gain more experience. If you are willing to co-sponsor any of the bills, please reach out. Ready for committee meetings. Thank you for everyone for joining.*

- Attorney General: *Just wanted to focus in on the committees as they are a great way to work on your initiatives and reach your goals effectively while gaining the voice and experience. Please apply if you care about your initiatives as it is not a big commitment.*
- Chief of Staff: *Great meeting!*
- Deputy Chief of Staff: *It was a nice meeting.*
- Director of Outreach: *Nice meeting, thank you guys!*
- Senator Davis: *Nice meeting, everyone!*
- Senator Ahmed: *I wanted to thank Jade for filling me in as I couldn't speak before. I also wanted to inform that our committee meetings will be Tuesdays at 6p and I look forward to working with you guys. If you guys have any initiatives that are related to academic affairs, please reach out!*
- Senator Chwuku: *Nice meeting everyone! Also, thank you for passing my bill. Please join committees and help us with ideas!*

II. Open Forum

III. Closing Call of the Roll

- Senator Aldulaimi (*Absent*)
- Senator Hilton (*Absent*)
- Senator Kelly (*Absent*)
- Senator Kim (*Absent*)
- Senator Morgan (*Absent*)
- Senator Sasser (*Absent*)
- Senator Shuping (*Absent*)

Clause 10: Adjournment