



Senate Minutes  
October 13th, 2020  
Union Ballroom, 6:30 PM

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Roll Call**

- a. Present: 42
- b. Absent: 1
- c. Proxy: 7

**III. Approval of the Minutes**

**IV. Special Orders**

- a. Reports (5 minutes each)
  - i. Special Reports
  - ii. Advisor, Mary Skinner
    - 1. Stay healthy!
    - 2. If you are turning in an event form, turn it in 5 business days before the event.
  - iii. Graduate Assistants, Ian O'Rourke and Katie Mahar
    - 1. No report.
  - iv. President, Julia Nall
    - 1. If you are registered to vote in AR, you can change your address or name until October 30<sup>th</sup>.
    - 2. Keep the student who was attacked over the weekend in your thoughts or prayers. We carry the campus culture on our shoulders. Let's foster inclusivity and thoughtfulness.
  - v. Vice-President, Ben Cameron
    - 1. Happy Homecoming!
  - vi. Treasurer, Jissel Esparza
    - 1. Second funding session was yesterday.
    - 2. The next session is Thursday, October 22 at noon.
    - 3. So far, we have allocated \$4648.70
    - 4. Our Chinese and Arabic translators are going to start translating tomorrow morning.
    - 5. OFA & FLF simulation is tomorrow.
  - vii. Secretary, Emma Kate Dillon
    - 1. Safe Ride is having committee meetings. Tomorrow there will be voting on if hours will be reduced. Let her know if you want the link to join.
    - 2. Headshot sign-ups will be sent out soon.

3. Ms. Rosa wants you to fill out the newswire form if you want to promote something you are doing in Senate.
- viii. Chief Justice, Adam Hagler
  1. Voting for Homecoming is officially closed.
  2. Judicial is meeting tomorrow to discuss expenditure reports and itemized budgets.
  3. We had 3785 votes. 4.6% increase from last year.
- ix. GSC President, JD. D' Loreto-Hill
  1. No report.
- x. Cabinet Reports
  1. Chief of Staff, William Motazed
    - a. Nutrition Week is a series of events next week.
    - b. Campus resource event and an event to promote the NYT subscription are the week after that.
    - c. There is a new email for work it off: [asgcab5@uark.edu](mailto:asgcab5@uark.edu)
- xi. Membership Development Coordinator, Lexi Robertson
  1. No report.
- xii. Chair of the Senate, Caleb Parker
  1. If you're working on legislation, he is happy to help any way he can.

**V. Appointments, Nominations, and Elections**

- a. Motion to amend the agenda to add nominations for the student safety commission. (Senator Simpson)
  - i. Student Safety Commission Nominations
    1. Senator Sutton (Senator Simpson)
    2. Senator Eichenberger (Senator Jones)

**VI. Public Comment (3 at 2 minutes each)**

- a. Jasmine Peterson (former UARK student): She is here to provide her support for Resolution No. 2. She strongly encourages us to pass the resolution.

**VII. Old Business**

- a. ASG Senate Bill No. 3- A Funding Bill to Support the Bud Walton Voting Center
  - i. Author(s): Chair of Senate Caleb Parker, ASG President Julia Nall
  - ii. Sponsor(s): Senator Lily Jones, Senator Hope Davenport
    1. Allocations Committee Report – Senator Bridgforth
      - a. Think it is a great way to support this initiative and also utilize our budget.
      - b. Voted to pass as written.
    2. Campus Life Committee Report – Senator Jones
      - a. Motion to amend line 13 “is” to “are”
    3. Opened to a period of Sponsorship

4. Period of Authorship
  - a. Multiple branches of ASG are contributing. We are pulling a little more than \$750 from the rest of the ASG budgets.
5. Period of Voting
  - a. Bill passes: 47 pass, 1 fail, 1 abstention
- b. ASG Senate Bill. No. 4- The Campaign Ticket Reform Act of 2020
  - i. Author(s): Senator Colton Simpson, Senator Hope Davenport
  - ii. Sponsor(s): Senator Brooklynn Warren, Senator Lana Dranow, Senator Emily Heidemann, Senator Max Sutton, Senator Jack Switzer, Senator Sophie Hill, Senator Lily Jones
    1. Internal Affairs Committee Report - Senator Davenport
      - a. Motion to amend line 51 “No President or Vice President candidate may spend more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) each, including donations, for the general election. No Treasurer or Secretary candidate’s campaign may spend more than five hundred dollars (\$500) each, including donations, for the general election. In the case for a run-off election, the Presidential or Vice Presidential candidates will be allowed a total of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) each in campaign expenses per run-off campaign, while each Treasurer or Secretary candidate will be allowed a total of one hundred and twenty-five dollars (\$125) each in campaign expenses per run-off.”
      - b. Debate Against (Jones): If the role of the VP is more similar to the treasurer and secretary, then the budget should reflect that as well.
      - c. Debate in Favor (Simpson): For the purpose of this bill isn’t to mess with the funding, but that should be a topic discussed in the future.
      - d. Question (Simmons): Why don’t we just not amend this now?
      - e. Answer that if we pass this bill without the amendment there will be a disconnect that could cause issues for judicial.
      - f. Motion to vote by acclamation. Motion passes.
    2. Campus Life Committee Report – Senator Jones
      - a. Voted to table until there is an amendment on the budget, but Internal Affairs made the amendment.
    3. Period of Authorship

- a. With that amendment added they think they've addressed every problem.
  - b. Question of if right now the VP and President have \$2,000 combined.
  - c. Answer that it is already divided by \$1,000 each.
  - d. Question of why they want to pass this.
  - e. Answer that since the Vice President's role has changed it makes more sense for them to run independently.
  - f. Follow up question of if they see the way elections currently run to change because people don't have to run on a ticket.
  - g. Answer that they don't see it changing at all since it is most efficient for campaigns to pull money together on an unofficial ticket.
  - h. Question about how candidates in the debates say they are overjoyed to work with a split ticket but that could change if VP and Pres aren't attached.
  - i. Answer that most ASG agents are there for the good of the students and should be happy to serve in the role no matter what. The role of the VP isn't to support the President.
  - j. Question of if you were to split it up individually why the money wouldn't be evenly split between all candidates.
  - k. Answer that it is already written out the way it is, and those numbers could be up for interpretation in the future. There is a bill in the works for that.
4. Debate Against (Senator Pollard)
    - a. While the duties from the VP differ from the President, if the President resigns, the VP assumes that role. When the President chooses a VP to run with them, they choose someone with similar goals and values.
  5. Debate in Favor (Senator Davenport)
    - a. The idea behind separating the VP and Pres is so the students can directly elect the VP and they will do that keeping in mind that the VP would step in if the Pres resigned.
  6. Period of Voting
    - a. Bill passes: 28 pass, 21 fail, 0 abstain
- c. ASG Senate Resolution No. 1- A Resolution To Expand Students and Faculty the Opportunity To Vote

- i. Author(s): Senator Harrison Davis, Director of Academics Stephanie Verdaris
  - ii. Sponsor(s): Senator Kaitlyn Smythe, Senator Maddie Jones, Senator Lauren Meltzer, Senator Sarkis Kalajyan, Senator Colton Simpson, Senator Terah Bryson, Senator Jack Switzer
    - 1. Academics Committee Report – Senator Switzer
      - a. They think this is a great idea.
      - b. Motion to amend line 28 “a resident of Arkansas must be unable to attend the physical polling site on election day due to one of the following criteria: unavoidable absence, illness or physical disability, military-related absence of one or their dependent, or temporary residence outside the United States or COVID-19 related absence; and”
      - c. If this is going to be taken seriously by faculty, it would be better for them to see the exact criteria.
      - d. Motion passes.
    - 2. Period of Authorship
      - a. The point of this resolution is to ask the University to continue their commitment to let students vote.
    - 3. Period of Voting
      - a. Resolution passes: 48 pass, 0 fail, 1 abstain
- d. ASG Senate Resolution No. 2- A Resolution to Request that the Arkansas State Legislature Remove All References to the Confederate States of America on the Arkansas State Flag by Redefining the Confederate Star to the United States Star and that It Do So by Adopting Arkansas House Bill 1736
  - i. Author(s): Senator Sophie Hill, GPSC Research Council Chair Will Teague
  - ii. Sponsor(s): Senator Colton Simpson
    - 1. Campus Life Committee Report – Senator Jones
      - a. Voted unanimously to pass as written
    - 2. Period of Authorship
      - a. Motion to amend by adding whereas clause stating, “The state flag is also considered to be a university flag (see: Board Policy 100.6 “State Flag University of Arkansas Flag” policy put in place on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 1940). Therefore, this is directly an institutional issue and merits the opinion of the student body.”
      - b. Authorship for amendment: This piece of information makes this an institutional issue.
      - c. Amendment passes.

- d. Motion to amend by adding a be it therefore resolved clause stating, “That the ASG senate supports changing the flag because it is a University issue.”
  - e. Authorship for amendment: Since the state flag is the university flag, this is directly a university issue.
  - f. Motion passes.
  - g. Motion to amend by adding a be it further resolved clause stating, “A copy of this legislation will be sent to Chancellor Steinmetz.”
  - h. Motion to move to previous questions.
  - i. Motion passes.
  - j. The KKK that added this star to the flag were discriminatory against many groups of people, not just African Americans. As an institution, we don’t agree with that version of the Klan’s hatred for many groups of people.
  - k. Question of if they would directly name the groups of Native Americans that would be represented on the flag.
  - l. Answer that that would be up to the legislators.
3. Debate against (Senator Roundtree)
    - a. The entire removal of the Confederacy as a whole from the flag, does not allow us to remove it from history. It is important that this stay on the flag for children to still learn about this in schools.
    - b. It is highly disrespectful to give Native Americans one star since there have been over 14 tribes that have lived on this land. They did not claim power over this land; they saw it as sacred. Our flag is meant to reflect history, not morality. Native Americans shouldn’t be thrown in their loosely without respect.
  4. Debate in Favor (Senator Roberts)
    - a. It is past time for us as Arkansans for us to denounce the confederacy and recognize that their sole purpose was to maintain slavery. The history of it shouldn’t be displayed on our flag.
  5. Debate Against (Senator Roundtree)
    - a. A response to racism and bad history isn’t to remove our history. Our state flag represents where we have been.
  6. Debate in Favor (Will Teague)
    - a. You can’t erase history, but there is such a thing of hiding history. This is what was done in Arkansas by the KKK,

hiding it in the form of a star. People do not learn history from stars and flags. History resides in articles and books.

7. Motion to extend the speakers time by 3 minutes.
8. Debate in Favor (Senator Davenport)
  - a. Yields time to member of the public: Jasmine Peterson.
  - b. She believes that the star on the flag is disrespectful. She did not learn that the star represents the confederacy in school. Changing the flag does not erase history.
9. Period of Voting
  - a. Resolution passes: 35 pass, 10 fail, 4 abstain

**VIII. New Business**

**IX. Announcements**

**X. Adjournment**