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Senate Minutes

April 3rd, 2018

Graduate Education Auditorium, 6:00 PM

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**

a. 5 absence

b. 43 present

c. 2 proxy

1. **Approval of the Minutes**
2. **Special Orders**
   1. Reports (5 minutes each)
      1. Special Reports
      2. Advisor, Michael McAllister
3. April is a busy month and the revised draft of the constitution will come to the floor soon.
4. ASG OFA Boards and Chief of Staff and FLF Coordinator are open now and Cabinet positons will be open in the next few weeks.
5. Congratulated the new ASG Exec team and commended all the candidates.
   * 1. Graduate Assistants, Joshua Saraping and Sage McCoy
     2. President, Andrew Counce
     3. Vice-President, Natalie Counce
6. Women’s Empowerment Conference this weekend and the keynote speaker is a civil right activist.
   * 1. Treasurer, Macarena Arce
     2. Secretary, Ashton Yarborough
     3. Chief Justice, Andrew Hansen
7. General Election season is completed and thanked everyone who participated.
8. ASGJ will be reviewing the constitution and give feedback on it as suggestions.
9. They heard and decided 2 general elections campaigns and 6 senate candidates were disqualified from the elections and 2 candidate’s suspensions were overturned and they are being rewarded seats in their colleges.
   * 1. GSC Speaker, Arley Ward
     2. Cabinet Reports
        1. Chief of Staff, JT Hale
     3. FLF Coordinator, Abigail Walker
     4. Chair of the Senate, Colman Betler
10. Funding deadline is today and all of the old business bills have to be passed today.
11. The extra money in the Senate budget will be used somewhere else.
12. Inauguration for ASG will be April 29th at noon.
13. Officer of the year is April 17th around 5:30 we will have a reception.
14. Senate end of the year dinner is May 1st at JJ’s on Dickson with a make your own burger bar, homemade chips, green beans and ceaser salad. We still have some money left so we will decide on a dessert in the senate group me. It will be from 6-8 pm.
15. **Appointments, Nominations, and Elections**
16. Senator of Year Award Nomination Speeches
17. Senator Cassidy Cook (Boone)
18. Senator Clay Smith (Gairhan)
19. Senator Caroline Dallas (Pinkerton)
20. Senator Allison Barnett (Thornton/Sebree)
21. Senator Jesse Kloss (Moudy)
22. Senator Drake Moudy (Bradshaw)
23. Senator Kianna Sarvestani (Cook)
24. Senator Amarchi Onyebueke (Seebree)
25. Senator of the Year Voting
26. **Public Comment (3 at 2 minutes each)**
27. Maria Calderon—If you want to help with voting for Washington County, reach out to her.
28. **Old Business**
    1. ASG Senate Bill No. 10 - Senate Bill to Fund a Bus Shelter in Remote Lot 99
       1. Authored by Senator Kianna Sarvestani, Senator Cade Carlisle, Senator Ryan Panyard
29. Allocations Committee Report—supports this.
30. Infrastructure Committee Report—everyone supports this and the entire committee helped develop this.
31. Authors recapped that we will be helping pay for part of this and that the plaque will say that ASG Senate funded the bus shelters.
32. Vote Count: 45 yes, 0 no, pass.
    * 1. Sponsored by Senator Cassidy Cook, Senator Collin Petigna, Senator Mateo Lopez, Senator Luke Turner. Senator Zane Lovell, Senator Caroline Dallas, Senator Jake Stewart, Senator Blaine Fielder, Senator Austin Overton, Senator Christopher Pardun
    1. ASG Senate Resolution No. 15 - A Resolution to Support Zero Waste and Carbon Neutrality
       1. Authored by Senator Allison Barnett, Director of Sustainability Trent Scaccia
33. Campus Life Committee: pass it to promote zero waste.
34. Authors discussed the importance of reaching the midterm goals and how this helps accomplish the united voice between UASC and students.
35. Questions were answered regarding how we know what emissions we are reducing and what the plan is to address them.
36. Vote Count: 44 yes, 1 no, pass.
    * 1. Sponsored by
    1. ASG Senate Resolution No. 16 - A Resolution to Support the Razorback Action Group in Combating the Opioid Epidemic
       1. Authored by Senator Jesse Kloss, Senator Drake Moudy, Director of the Associate Member Program Maria Calderon, Director of External Relations Trevor Villines
37. Campus Life Committee: supports it.
38. Authors re-identified the need to support this and that we have had 2 deaths on campus do to issues with this.
39. Vote by acclimation: passed.
    * 1. Sponsored by Senator Christine Carroll, Senator Mateo Lopez, Senator Ben Thornton, Senator Collin Petigna, Senator Noah Bradshaw, Senator Clay Smith, Senator Warrington Sebree, Senator Garrett Dorf
    1. ASG Senate Resolution No. 17 - A Resolution to Support the Restructuring of University Perspectives Course into A Diversity Course (*extended speakers time by 2 minutes, extended for 2 minutes, extended by 2 minutes)* 
       1. Authored by Senator Karsen Sims and ASG President Andrew Counce
40. Academics Committee Report: supports it.
41. The goal of it is to re-structure UP and it is 10/20 students per class and UP teachers support it. The aspects of the UP can be kept like finances, blackboard and other things can be structured around it. The chancellor loved the idea and wants to keep the conversation going regarding this.
42. When the authors have reached out to administration they have been supported of it and want to see student support.
43. Questions were had over if UP was the correct course to convert to diversity as the goal of it is to encourage you to stay in college but not structure it to the whole class.
44. Authors re-iterated that this is a great opportunity to talk about diversity from a class perspective and not just certain times during the year when it is appropriate.
45. Debate Against: We have 2 risk and that there is a risk for a professor to lower grades based on opinions/polices and peers do not want something that has to do with majors.
46. Debate Favor: UP isn’t the only thing that prepares students for college and diversity needs to be an active conversation then a lecture.
47. Debate Favor: If you are in an upper level class and the grading on the subjectivity has no issues in upper level classes so the risk of that with UP is not a problem.
48. Debate Favor: This will allow you to have a well, rounded higher education by pushing you to have new ideas.
49. Debate Favor: Diversity is relevant to everyone and everyone’s major and you will encounter people with different identities then you.
50. Debate Favor: Some people aren’t used to being around people of others views and this class could help promote people being more informed about what is or isn’t appropriate.
51. Vote Count: 37 yes, 7 no, 1 abstain.
    * 1. Sponsored by Senator Jesse Kloss, Senator Amarchi Onyebueke, Senator Thea Winston, Senator Zane Lovell, Senator Warrington Sebree, Senator Strohmann Breeding, Senator Mariam Siddiqui, Senator Deja Middleton, Senator Ben Thornton, Senator Nabil Bhimani, Senator Andrew O’Neil, Senator Noah Bradshaw
    1. ASG Senate Resolution No. 18 - A Resolution Supporting the Expansion of the Grade Forgiveness Policy
       1. Authored by President Andrew Counce, Senator Caroline Dallas, Senator Drake Moudy *(speakers time extended by 3 minutes)*
52. Academics Committee Report: pass it.
53. Authors want to expand the grade to a C for classes you can re-take. If it passes through Faculty Senate then it would go to the provost for the change.
54. Questions were had regarding why the policy wouldn’t change to add a B.
55. You are still facing the consequences because it still shows up on the transcript and you have to pay several $1,000s to retake it.
56. Several other benchmark schools grade forgiveness policies do allow for a C.
57. Debate Against: Fear of the effects it could have outside of the university and someone gets a C/A, C can’t replace it and create a discrepancy.
58. Debate Favor: if we work with the idea that it is unfair then we would have to do away with the entire policy.
59. Vote Count: 41 yes, 4 no, pass.
    * 1. Sponsored by Senator Luke Turner, Senator Ryan Panyard, Senator Cade Carlisle, Senator Austin Overton, Senator Jake Stewart, Senator Jissel Esparza-Saucedo, Senator Cassidy Cook, Senator Collin Petigna, Senator Jared Pinkerton, Senator Clay Smith, Senator Josie DuBois, Senator Blaine Fielder
60. **New Business**
    1. ASG Joint Resolution No. 5 – A Joint Resolution to Reaffirm Support for the Establishment of a Polling Location on Campus
       1. Authored by Senator Mariam Siddiqui and Senator Andrew O’Neil *(speakers time extended by 2 minutes)*
61. This is bringing up the re-affirm the location and initiatives with the polling station.
62. They have been meeting with the individuals who had issues with the original polling station and they are trying to tailor it to address the issues that the elections commissions had.
63. Clarification was given that the voting location will be only for early voting in the mid-term election.
64. If a polling location on campus is better on campus, then somewhere else then in the county the elections committee will re-allocate the resources.
65. Referred to Campus Life Committee.
    * 1. Sponsored by GSC Speaker Arley Ward, GSC Vice-Speaker Josh Burbridge, GSC Secretary Garet Jeter, GSC Director of Legislative Affairs JD DiLorento, GSC Parliamentarian Leah Holt, GSC Facilities Chair Kristen Callahan, and GSC Graduate Student Life Chair Jennifer Oramous, Senator Zane Lovell, Senator Strohman Breeding, Senator Emma Cleaver, Senator Elonay Yehualashet, and Senator Jissel Esparza Saucedo
    1. ASG Senate Resolution No. 20 - A Resolution to Reaffirm Support for Jewish and Israeli Students at the University of Arkansas
       1. Authored by Senator Noah Bradshaw, Senator Drake Moudy, Senator Jesse Kloss (*speakers time extended by 2 minutes, speakers time extended by 1 minute)*
66. The story behind it is because of Senator Bradshaw is Jewish and the US is facing a lot of anti-semitism towards Jewish organizations.
67. The purpose of this to show support for the students that we support the Jewish students that are suffering from the things going on within the US.
68. We have around 100 Jewish/Israeli students.
69. Questions that this should be a point of inspiration for individuals that the U of A supports it.
70. Questions regarding if we should speak on behalf of certain minority/religious groups but the authors said if other groups felt this way then they should show support for their struggles.
71. Discussion was had if this was a violation of a first amendment right and the authors addressed this by re-stating that this was a statement of support for students feeling oppressed and did not violate individual rights.
72. Questions were had if we should take out the statement of BDS and that people are split on the conflict and as a student government we should support either. The authors said that this does not support either side but shows support for students that are being oppressed.
73. Referred to Campus Life Committee, Internal Affairs Committee and Academics Committee to be formatted for formal debate next week.
    * 1. Sponsored by Senator Karsen Sims, Senator Warrington Sebree, Senator Allison Barnett, Senator Brandon Davis
74. **Announcements**
75. **Adjournment**