UT Dallas Student Government

Senate Meeting Agenda

11.03.2015

Roll Call

- Present: Caitlynn, Grant, Casey, Noah, Raja, Jake, Charlie, Rebecca, Katie, Ben, Anupam, Brett, Ivan, Luis, Gaurav, HJ, Nyemike, Becky, Jessica, JW, Tony, Tyler, Hannah, Sindhu, Adam, Neha, May, Sukaina, Zhongwei, Harris, Ravi, Neel, Joey, Varun, Anders, Andrew, Christian, Akshitha, Nishan, Megha, Carlos, Nisha
- Absent: Charlie, Ziya, Pooshan, Prashy

Approval of Minutes

- Approved

Announcements

Visitors:

Dr. Amanda Smith, Dean of Students

- Graduation Regalia
  - Here on behalf of President’s office
  - Feedback will not hurt her feelings
  - Current regalia
    - Undergraduates
    - CV: green
    - Masters: green stripe
      - Problem: no hand holes
  - Proposed
    - Monogramed with UT Dallas
    - Master's degree robe will not have mittens
    - Special look compared to standard black robes
  - The issue
    - You can borrow ones right now
    - If we switch to this, every person who graduates next year will have to buy a new robe
    - $42 without monogram
    - $99 for masters
    - Not a huge difference from normally buying a robe
    - After the first year, students can continue to borrow
  - Thoughts from SG
    - Ben
      - They look nice!
      - Price not an issue, because you can sell it and make some of the money back the next year
    - Adam
      - If we have to update at some point, might as well do it now
    - Katie
      - Transition issue
Some people have shown up without a robe, so what happens if people don’t buy the correct one
- Dr. Smith: communication falls on President’s office
- Might have extras there

- Harris
  - Could you implement something so students could borrow them starting the first year?

- Katie
  - Rental costs? Maybe the university could take some of the transition costs.
  - Dr. Smith: we can look into those costs

- Logo
  - UT Dallas will show in pictures when you shake the President’s hand
  - Similar to A&M

- Stoll
  - Gratitude stole
    - Concept behind it: wear to graduation, have to purchase ($20)
    - Put a name on it of someone who has influenced you and you give it to them

- Ben
  - Had at his other university
  - It’s a nice gift
  - You can have people sign it and keep as a sentiment

- Katie
  - Look at additional color options
    - Orange: undergrad
    - Green: graduate
    - Looks stretched
      - Dr. Smith: it was a rushed order, so that will not be an issue

- SG Proposal: tassel
  - Gold is traditional
  - If we want to jazz it up, each college has a national color
    - Examples
      - Education is “light blue”
      - Management is “drab”
      - IDS is white
      - ECS: orange
      - Arts and Humanities: white
      - BBS: yellow
    - Costs an additional $.25

- Andrew
  - Personalization would make me want to keep the hat

- Ben
  - Undergraduate had colors
  - He liked it
• It’s nice to tie it together; matches graduate hoods  
  ▪ Jessica  
  • Color may not matter because you graduate with everyone in your same school anyway (so it wouldn’t stand out a ton)  
  ▪ Akshitha  
  • Doesn’t want to pay more for the color that she doesn’t want  
  o Dr. Smith  
    ▪ Students are allowed to wear any cord that they want  
    ▪ Uniform cords in another proposal that we can discuss  
  o Decoration on the top of your hat  
    ▪ Not regulated at UTD  
    ▪ Many people decorate the top  
  o Adam  
    ▪ Rainbow tassels given out from a center on campus  

Mrs. Kim Winkler, Associate Dean of Students  
Dr. Marilyn Kaplan, Faculty Advisor  
Dr. Fitch, VP of Student Affairs  

Ex-officio reports:  
Briana Lemos, SG Advisor  
➢ The Guide  
  o Will assign before Thanksgiving break  
  o Any concerns?  
    ▪ Katie: what length?  
      • Briana: no more than 2 pages, prepare for it to be cut down  
    ▪ Grant: topic that wasn’t on list?  
      • Briana: come talk to me  
  ➢ Student regent applications due soon  

Officer reports:  
President: Caitlynn Fortner (cef130030@utdallas.edu)  
➢ Holiday fun  
  o White elephant gift exchange  
  o Movie night  
➢ Volunteer project  
  o We still need to do a project  
  o If you have something that you’re passionate about or involved with, talk to Caitlynn  
➢ Teaching and learning center  
  o Reached out to SG, wanting to talk about his project  
  o Will post a time of day for a meeting and attend if you can!  
  o After more details, he will speak at a Senate meeting  
➢ Music facilities  
  o Organizing meetings with different music organizations on campus  
  o If you don’t feel like you’ve had access to the resources you need, talk to Caitlynn
T-shirts from Viva Volunteer
- Come get them from Caitlynn after the meeting

Neha’s update
- Poster
  - Thanks to Megha!
  - Will discuss the poster in new business
- Presentation
  - Working on points to present
  - Grant will go into more details

Homecoming court
- HJ Kim
- Rebecca

Vice President: Grant Branam (gwb140030@utdallas.edu)

Title IX Education Piece
- Working with different students to decide on main points that we want to touch on
- Outline
  - Use different wording- not just legal language
  - Let us know if you have suggestions
- Will send it out once it is completed
- Poster
  - Made edits and will approve in New Business

Blue Books
- 3 minutes meeting with Dr. Blanchard
  - He will make sure that the schools have access to blue books asap
  - Individually distributed by the schools

Motor Scooters
- Increasing use of unique transportation devices on campus
- Confusing for administration
  - How to apply current policies to new devices
- Administration is on side of caution (ultimate goal: keep everyone safe)
- Our campus is based in technology
- Dr. Fitch suggests we take the initiative on this
- Want to have a policy that focuses on necessary safety precautions, rather than approving individual devices; makes the policy adaptable to new technology

Game and Media Library
- Met with Dr. Blanchard
- Donation based video games
- Game design students can test things out
- Need another student worker
- 5 days a week for at least 12 hours
- Now, funded and open!
- Located ATEC 3rd floor; looking into moving it to a new place

Handicap accessible Comet Cab is in!
- Can mount wheelchairs and other accessibility needs
- Staff is equipped to help students
- Up and operating very soon
Secretary: Casey Sublett (and Katie)

- Tailgate
  - Signup for float building!
  - Carboard boat regatta team

Treasurer: Katie Truesdale

Committee reports:

Academic Affairs Committee: Raja Reddy (rxr142030@utdallas.edu)

- Improvements in career development opportunities
  - Work with the Career Center
  - Career Expo opportunities are sometimes not targeted for undergraduates
  - Thanks to May!
    - Career Management Center
    - Students don’t feel like they can go to the center for needs, so we are looking to see how we can emulate the CMC in JSOM

- Alumni relations and credit cards
  - Thanks to Ziya for his work
  - Melinda Ellis liked the idea
    - Legal issues to tackle
    - Idea can be researched
  - Ideas
    - 1% of money spent can go back to alumni association
    - Amazon Smile: a portion of the funds spent on Amazon go towards a specific organization
      - Set one up for UT Dallas
      - Hopefully announced soon

Communications Committee: Rebecca Tjahja (rxt141430@utdallas.edu)

- Videos
- Tailgate TBT
  - Digging through old pictures in order to find ones from last year
  - Individually, share your own #tbt (throwback tailgate)
- Social media for projects
  - Let her know if you have a project that you want promoted
- Meet your Senators slide
  - Let Rebecca know if you haven’t had a picture taken yet

Graduate & International Affairs Committee: Anupam Kumar (axk135630@utdallas.edu)

- Outreach
  - Working with communications committee
- November 19: 7-9 PM
SG booth at the International Game Night
- A part of international week
- Purpose: outreach and interaction with local and international graduate students who attend the event
- Senators should attend as well!
- More details to be posted on Facebook

International student concerns
- Safety in housing areas
- Housing suggests a website called “Dallas Off-Campus”
- Concerns
  - Areas suggested are unsafe
- Reached out to International Office
  - Approach
    - Renegotiate partnership with website
      - Only places advertised are the ones who pay
      - Needs to be a better evaluation process
    - Better bus routes
      - Access to public transportation determines where many students can live
      - May increase the number of comet cruiser routes
    - Safety workshops for students
      - Connect concerned students with police and resources
- iFriend Program
  - International buddy program between local and international students
  - Encourages learning and understanding
  - Program/matches last for a semester
  - Recruiting opens up soon!
    - Spread the word to increase local student participation
    - Senate involvement is great
  - Grant: always short on domestic students!

Legislative Affairs Committee: Jake Colling (jjc140530@utdallas.edu)
- Draft of Equal Rights Ordinance
  - Hopefully have this draft by next meeting
- Spring debate
  - Plans for the event next semester
- Registering to vote
  - Working on getting more events in the future to help students get registered

Residential Student Affairs Committee: Noah Mudd (nwm140330@utdallas.edu)

Student Affairs Committee: Harris Chowdhary (filling in for Charlie Hannigan)
- Community Supported Agriculture
  - Farms that are linked to an organization
  - Moving pickup location to UTD
- Food trucks on campus
- Smoking regulations
- Library
  - Changing the system for fines
  - Currently have to pay online
  - Goal: pay at the library
- Muddy area around North mall
  - Putting in stone area
- Bike racks
  - New ones installed across many places on campus
- Business cards
  - Arrived!
  - Generic email and information
  - See Harris after the meeting if you want some

Technology Committee: Ben Eschler (bde140030@utdallas.edu)
- Petition website
  - Will be $250 per month
    - Grant: Qualtrics? Free option?
    - Sukain: Change.org page?
  - Discussion during new business
    - Brett
      - Have goals of so many signatures by a set date
    - Katie
      - Concern that people may not use the website

Old Business:
New Business:
- Appointments of Jason Waye and Jonathan Schueler
  - Approved!
- Harris moves to allocate $100 for recycling bins next to cashiers
  - People don’t want/can’t hold their receipts
  - If people don’t keep their receipt, it goes in the trash
  - $6-8 little bins for receipts
  - Takes forever if we have Chartwells buy them
  - Have employees empty the bins
  - Will buy about 10 bins
  - Anupam: concern about recycling picked up in dining services
    - Brett: not a concern
  - Vote passes!
- Senator of the month
  - Brett Cease
    - Amazing job leading AASHE Stars committee!
- Title IX Poster Approval
  - People are worried about the “US” not standing out enough
    - Can we outline it?
    - Make it more opaque?
    - White background makes it hard to read
o Faces
  ▪ People concerned that you can’t see the faces
    • Neha: the point is to see people, not individual faces

o Color
  ▪ Can we use another approved green color on the sides?

o JW
  ▪ Possible design: faces within the “US”

o Design
  ▪ It is meant to be simple so that organizations can adjust it to fit their organization to show support across many areas of campus
  ▪ We’re the first group; goal: spread around university

o Vote: passes!

➢ 5 minute discussion for Petition website
  o Adam: Facebook posts can be bad for organizing a group opinion
    ▪ Website provides a central place for our work
  o Rebecca
    ▪ Anonymous Tip-line comparison
      • There is an important difference
      • The website is good for public
      • Petitions can catch fire fast
  o Ivan
    ▪ Worried about people using it
    ▪ Try it out for a month
  o Anupam
    ▪ We have a big budget so it’s a good use of our money

➢ Discussion on transportation policy
  o Adam
    ▪ Hoverboards don’t go very fast
    ▪ He’s seen Heelys inside
    ▪ Make sure people can use things inside
    ▪ Bikes can be dangerous
  o Joey
    ▪ We could have bike free areas
  o Christian
    ▪ Courtesy should be addressed
    ▪ Right of way rules/policies
  o Andrew
    ▪ Cops already have too much control
  o Katie
    ▪ More feasible to have non-bike areas than non-hoverboard areas
  o Grant
    ▪ Police are fine with people having these devices as long as they are sued safely
    ▪ Enforcement is not under our directive; we’re just formulating policy
    ▪ We want a policy directed towards size/speed versus specifying rules for specific devices
Adjournment at 6:44 PM

Parliamentary Procedure Basics
To ask a question - "Point of Information: [state question]"
To make a motion - "I move to [exact wording of motion]." (Most motions coming from an individual must be seconded by another individual simply saying "Second")
To end debate and move directly into a vote on the motion - "Call to question." (Generally, the chair will ask if there is any further discussion. If there is not, she will present the motion at hand to be voted on. The motion is typically used when there is still debate to be had but a person feels it is unnecessary. It is voted on.) To ask a question about Parliamentary Procedure – “Point of Parliamentary Procedure (or ParliPro)”