

Student Government Minutes
November 14, 2006

Roll Call

Present: Basheer Benhalim, Felicity Lenes, Jessica Amber Ahmed, Eraj Akhtar, Dan Bautista, Clinton Brennan, Stephanie Chan, Jimmy Chu, Snir Cohen, Ben Dower, Wencong Fa, Yana Gelman, Farzan Ghodsianzadeh, Ashley Hooker, Scott Hooker, Karen Huang, Paul Ingram, Maria Islam, Hasseb Jangda, Nicholas “Kyle” Keller, William Kelly, Iris Kwong, Benjamin Linke, Arie Litovsky, Megan Malone, Chris Marciano, Shamin Masrour, Sarha Mavrakis, Manfred Mecoy, Nathaniel Mireles, Julia O’Kelley, Kevin Patel, Juliann Peterson, MiaoMiao Qu, Jeff Poole, Ammar Rahim, Albert Ramirez, Jennifer Rogas, Steven Rosson, Tim Shipper, Abhi Singh, Lori Skillestad, Alex Swaim, Ana Tavares, Chris Toolin, Kerri West, Chase Whitehead, Molly Wurzer, Yen Yoon.

Excused: Julie Evans, Shubham Manchanda, Bradley Wallace

Unexcused: Zeeshan Abedin, Mohammed Ali Jamal, Syed Maaz Shah, Jason Stephen, Adit Wongsaroj

Approval Of Minutes – roll call corrections; approved as corrected

Visitors:

Dr. Marilyn Kaplan (Secretary of Faculty Senate)

- Students are only allowed to retake a class 3 times, and the third time you take it, the fee will be the cost of out-of-state fee

Anne Caldwell (International Student Services Office)

- International Education is this week

Special Presentation:

- Report of the Internet Inquiry Committee (Chair: Ben Dower)
 - Met with Dr. Rachavong, Matt Grief, and Dr. Gary last Friday for about 2 hours
 - They don’t have specific details for us yet, so we can’t make recommendations just yet
 - Length of the contract: there is a buy out clause with a small fee

President: Basheer Benhalim

- \$525 Insurance for Athletics
 - Office of Alum Relations is interested in co-sponsoring
 - Scholarship Shoot-out at basketball games
 - Ask bookstore to donate \$50 gift cards
- UTSSAC – Academic Affairs
 - 7 recommendations to be presented to the board
 - Clarification on time of degree plan/BOT, Be on Time

- Required classes be offered twice between 3-long semesters between academic years
- Encouraging undergraduate research
- Better CAPS (Coordinated Administration Program)
- Expand TAMS concept throughout the UT system
- Ratio of students to advisors needs to be better
- Texas Common Course Number needs to be implemented again
- Parking
 - Basheer will no longer be dismissing parking tickets for people
- Allocations that need to be made today
 - \$500 for a phone for the conference room
 - SG tent cost a little more than expected: \$400

Vice President: Felicity Lenes

- Holiday Gift Swap – November 28th in Regency Room
- Thanks to everyone who attended Town Hall Meeting
- QEP Handouts: please fill the forms out
- UTSSAC – dead days
 - Dead day: a day before exam periods when there are no classes or teacher scheduled reviews
 - Some recommendations would be to ask teachers not to schedule exams on the last day of classes
- International SOS
 - Travel insurance for those who study abroad
 - Cost already included in students' fee

Graduate and International Students Committee: Kevin Patel

- Some senators on his committee have not been showing up to committee meetings: may be expelled from the senate
- Next meeting on Monday at 5:15pm
- Issue to look into: graduate students have to pay for babysitters for about 3 weeks because UTD's school year starts earlier than some public schools
- Would like to open a convenience store on campus
- Please vote for the Scholarship Shoot-out (part of SG PR program)
- Need a program to improve English of some professors and TA's

Academic Affairs Committee: Iris Kwong

- Creating a survey for sound-off so if you have any questions, e-mail them to Iris or Sarha
- Looking to develop philosophy major here
- Looking for ways to expand the Collegium V program
- Work with Dr. Pineres to form selective group of students to work with recruitment/somewhat like the student ambassadors

Communications Committee: Sarha Mavrakis

- Sound-Off Results
- Next one will include Iris' survey

- Will be putting up QEP signs
- Need to allocate money for SG pens: \$1270
- We have ordered building sign and are ready to order the tent
- Hoodies and polos are in the process of being ordered

Technology Committee: Ben Dower

- Squeaky Chair Crusade Presentation: thanks to those who came out to help

Student Life Committee: Manfred Mecoy

- 24-hour facility: will be talking to CHAC about having Phase 3 clubhouse as a 24 hour facility
- Greek housing: would like to have a committee with a member from each Greek organizations to visit Greek houses at other campuses

Waterview and Commuter Students Committee: Juliann Peterson

- CHAC Update: meeting this Thursday
- Commuter students: take the survey at sg.utdallas.edu
- Waterview survey will probably be up tomorrow and there will be prizes

Student Services: Snir Cohen

- 24-hour facility
 - Want to ask library to give students access to main floor area, if not 24 hours, at least during finals
- Public Affairs – trip to Austin to be available to senators
 - Go to Austin to advocating for the bills we want passed at the next session (Student Services Building fee, DART fee, etc.)
- Committee for Effective Teaching
 - University-wide committee that met today
 - CELT (center for effective learning and teaching): a way to help teachers teach effectively

Treasurer: Shamin Masrour

- \$13, 200 left in project budget

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Motion to allocate up to an additional of \$400 for the SG tent
 - Motion failed (9-29)
- Motion to allocate \$500 for a phone in the SG Conference room
 - Motion passed (34-0)
- Motion to appropriate up to \$525 for Insurance for Athletics/Paddle Rewards Program
 - Motion passed
- Motion to approve \$1270 for SG pens
 - Motion passed (33-0)

- Motion to freeze SG's spending until the new semester begins
 - Motion failed (3-31)

Advisor's report: Patty Atchley

- Another search committee is being formed for hiring a doctor for the Health Center
- SACS – every five years
- MLK breakfast January 17th, please RSVP with Patty
- Women's Leadership Conference will be in the spring
- New hires/Marketing manager, Kellyn Dunn and Fitness/Aquatics Coordinator
- UTSystem VPs will be on campus Friday
- WV Housing Focus groups meeting

Motion to adjourn – passed

7:08 pm