

Student Government Minutes
January 23, 2007

Roll Call

Present: Basheer Benhalim, Felicity Lenes, Zeeshan Abedin, Eraj Akhtar, Harrison John Boyd Jr., Clinton Brennan, Snir Cohen, Ben Dower, Wencong Fa, Yana Gelman, Farzan Ghodsianzadeh, Scott Hooker, Paul Ingram, Maria Islam, Mohammed Ali Jamal, Hasseb Jangda, Kyle Keller, William Kelly, Arie Litovsky, Shubham Manchanda, Shamin Masrour, Sarha Mavrakis, Manfred Mecoy, Juliann Peterson, MiaoMiao Qu, Ammar Rahim, Albert Ramirez, George Graham, Jeff Poole, Dan Bautista, Jason Stephen, Alex Swaim, Ana Tavares, Chris Toolin, Bradley Wallace, Adit Wongsaraj, Yen Yoon, Stephanie Chan, Chase Whitehead

Excused: Jessica Amber Ahmed, Julie Evans, Iris Kwong, Megan Malone, Kevin Patel, Steven Rosson, Abhi Singh, Lori Skillestad

Unexcused: Ashley Hooker, Chris Marciano,

Approval of Minutes:

- Correction: Julie Evans was excused
- Approved as corrected

SUAAB:

- Stand up Comedy Night this Thursday
- Winter Concert this Friday
- Improv Comedy night next Tuesday
- Watch the calendars for upcoming events

SOF:

- Registration deadline for organizations is February 8

Dr. Marilyn Kaplan (Secretary of Faculty Senate)

- Agenda item for Faculty Senate – Setting up a website maintained by the school for ISBN numbers for students

Officer Reports:

President: Basheer Benhalim

- Waterview Rent increases
 - Rent will increase by 10%
 - Those on old rate will experience an increase based on old rate, not up-to-date rate
- Miss UTD – possibly having Student Government host/organize it
- Alpha Gamma Delta tailgate
 - February 17th, before the last basketball game and the first baseball game of the season
 - Would like Student Government to contribute money – about \$750

- Presentation by Peter Walker on campus beautification is now available online (www.utdallas.edu/pwp/)

Vice President: Felicity Lenes

- Mobile Campus Liaison work
 - See Felicity or any other senator who works with them if you have any questions etc.
 - Green and Pink t-shirts and water bottles will be given out with the Student Government logo on them
- UT Serve – need a Senator Chair: Ben Dower
- Counseling Center
 - Currently provides 12 appointments for all UTD students per academic year
 - Trying to work out a partnership with UT Southwestern to get more counselors to come in to reduce fees
- Fight Song
 - Have been talking to Katherine Evans and other students interested in helping
- Campus Beautification – Peter Walker Partners
 - Please look at the presentation available online
- PUB hours extension: Sunday 5 pm – Friday 5 pm
 - Hopefully beginning February
- Women’s Leadership Conference: February 9th → please sign-up!

Graduate and International Student Affairs Committee: Kevin Patel

- Banner is in the process of being printed and will be put up as soon as possible

Academic Affairs Committee: Iris Kwong

- Members of the committee have been assigned various tasks
- Please sign-up to work constitutional amendments elections next week

Communications Committee: Sarha Mavrakis

- Will have a sound-off next Tuesday

Technology Committee: Ben Dower

- Mercury has been keeping up with the Time Warner Cable contract
- Capazoo: like Facebook, MySpace, and YouTube → EC will be discussing it

Student Affairs Committee: Manfred Mecoy

- UNT Greek housing visit was hindered due to bad weather – rescheduled to next Tuesday
- Committee will discuss direction of Greek housing
- Working to resolve commuter students’ issues

Residential Student Affairs Committee: Juliann Peterson

- Committee meeting after senate meeting
- CHAC agenda:
 - residential life program is up and running for PA’s in phases other than 8
 - lease transfer program needs to be revisited

- WP office hours of operation has increased
- sprinklers and drainage issues in Phase 8 is being worked on

Legislative Affairs: Snir Cohen

- Committee restructuring: combined Student Services and Student Life to make Student Affairs; Legislative Affairs was created
- Anyone interested in being on this committee please e-mail Snir and copy Felicity by next Monday
- Trip to Austin: either the last week in March or the first week in April
- Working on liaison with the City of Richardson
- Working on bills to pass the DART and Athletics fee
- Hoping to start passing out DART passes this semester

Election Committee: Scott Hooker

- Elections will be held on Monday, January 29 and Tuesday, January 30 in the Student Union from 12 – 3 PM and 4:30-7 PM
- Sign up to work the election

Report of the Treasurer: Shamin Masrour

- Project budget: \$11,930

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Motion to approve nomination of Bruce August to rejoin senate – passed
- Motion to approve nomination of Manfred as chair of Student Affairs committee - passed
- Motion to approve nomination of Snir as chair of Legislative Affairs – passed
- Motion to approve nomination of Tiffany Ornelas to rejoin senate – passed
- Resolution of Student Senate regarding Waterview Rent Increases
 - Friendly amendment to add a clause regarding Waterview communicating a rent increase in the range of 3-5% - accepted
 - Friendly amendment to add a clause regarding Waterview going against its mission statement of being ‘economical’ – accepted
 - Friendly amendment to add a clause saying students understand that we are paying a premium – accepted
 - Motion to approve the resolution as amended – unanimously passed
- Would like to create a committee dealing with the rent increase:
 - Waterview Rent Increase Inquiry Committee – motion to approve – failed
 - Waterview Rent Inquiry Committee – motion to approve – passed
- Motion to allocate \$750 to co-sponsor the Alpha Gamma Delta tailgate - passed
- Purchase a Student Government tent – motion to table the issue – passed
- Petition against rent increase: WRIC will handle it
- Constitution requires amendments to sit before the body for 30 days but the senate meets every 28 days, so we would like to change Article 6, Section 1 to make it 28 days instead of 30.

Advisor's Report: Patty Atchley

- Women's Leadership Conference: please sign up!

Motion to adjourn – 6:54 pm