

Student Government Senate Meeting

Areeb Siddiqui, Secretary

September 19, 2017

Senate Minutes

Announcements:

Officer Spigelmyer

- National Night Out
 - Tuesday, October 3rd, 6:30pm-8:30pm, Res Hall North
 - UTD Color Guard Club will be performing; Athletic Department will be joining
 - Free hot dogs, veggie dogs, popsicles will be available

President: JW Van Der Schans (john.vanderschans@utdallas.edu)

- Constitution Day Summary
 - A great success! Thank you for coming out
- University-Wide Committees: Available positions
 - Parking and Transportation – 2 open positions
 - Topics to be covered:
 - Increased pricing for covered parking
 - Residents are using commuter parking -> Next year residents may only buy residential
 - Academic Calendar – 1 open positions
 - They will be setting precedent for a calendar a few years from now
 - Academic Senate Observers
 - Functions as a faculty “Student Government”
 - They need 4 additional observers (of which 2 have voting power)
- Mobile App
 - They appreciate our feedback; keep submitting more!
- UTSSAC
 - Alex and JW are going down to Austin to meet SG leaders from the UT System

Vice President: Alex Holcomb (alexander.holcomb@utdallas.edu)

- Mosaic Project
 - SG has been looking at putting a mural on the west-facing wall of the Pub; more updates to come
- Public Arts Project
 - Mural project for Student Union that we began last semester; UTD Art has received a grant to work in conjunction with us
- Comet Day
 - Sep 26, 12-2pm, Plinth
 - SUAAB is hosting spirit day in conjunction with SG and other orgs
 - Great opportunity for face-to-face interaction with our constituents

Secretary: Areeb Siddiqui (Areeb.Siddiqui@utdallas.edu)

- No report

Treasurer: Reuben Rusk (Reuben.Rusk@utdallas.edu)

- Budget report
 - Send allocation forms to Reuben the Wednesday before the Senate meeting

Committee reports:

Academic Affairs Committee: Nikki Prattipati (sainikitha.prattipati@utdallas.edu)

- Looking at central location for faculty's published content
 - Part of an effort to showcase research and faculty members
 - As of now -> Have found lots of separate websites that host info; looking to combine to one website

Communications Committee: Eric Chen (eric.chen8@utdallas.edu)

- "Welcome to SG" video launch
 - October 16; more updates to come
- Let us know if you have committee events that need marketing
- Hannah: Have you updated SG Bulletin Board?
 - Eric: We first want to have a conversation about moving it

Graduate & International Affairs Committee: Jason Waye (Jason.Waye@utdallas.edu)

- Texas Party
 - Saturday, Sep 23, 7-9pm
 - Senators should talk to people in line at the mechanical bull

Legislative Affairs Committee: Rebecca Tjahja (Rebecca.Tjahja@utdallas.edu)

- Shout out to Addison for going to Richardson city council meeting
 - We will go next Monday 6:30pm-7pm
- Know Your Rights Cards: Approval
 - Shout out to Karine for designing
 - 2 options for the card; discussed in New Business
- Comet Policy Plug: DACA Video
 - Legislative committee will produce short clips to inform students of resources on campus for those who might be affected
- Comet Clash Debate Series at the Pub
 - Let Rebecca know about issues you want to see debated
 - Net Neutrality, November 2nd @ 7pm
- Political Speakers
 - More information to come; give us your ideas

Residential Student Affairs Committee: Danni Yang (Danni.Yang@utdallas.edu)

- Advertising umbrellas
 - Umbrella rentals are now in the dorms! Spread the word!
- Moving charging stations
 - Should be in place in the upcoming weeks
- Laundry room survey update
 - In order to create a solution for pileup, we are working on creating shelving space; survey will be sent out to gauge interest soon

- Residence hall art gallery
 - Survey to be sent out soon
- Pilot for a 24 hour dining service
 - Also will be releasing survey
 - If we have a pilot, come out and show support so it gets approved
- Want to start discussion on incentivizing students to live on campus

Student Affairs Committee: Sammy Lutes (Samuel.Lutes@utdallas.edu)

- Wellness Initiatives
 - Working with Res Affairs and Wellness Center to place resource brochures into the dorms
 - Improve access by posting resources on eLearning
- Campus Safety Projects
 - Projects in the works:
 - Parking lot lighting, visibility of cameras
 - Adding more emergency call towers
- Fitness Facilities
 - In discussion:
 - Ball park on campus; alleviate overcrowding
- Hot Water Machines
 - To provide hot water for tea, coffee; survey to be sent soon
- Christian F: Safety: Lights have been out in overflow lot, take a look at those
- Harpreet:
 - The water in ATEC is very cold
 - Counseling sessions are very difficult to get
- Danni: What about online counseling?
 - Haris: UT System has been looking at it; won't be in place for a few years

Technology Committee: Dhiren Kisani (Dhiren.Kisani@utdallas.edu)

- Communication form sample to be sent out soon
- Amazon locker information
 - Amazon has a separate program for college campuses
 - Yilong has been in contact with UT Austin to get a point of contact for Amazon
 - This program is a separate facility that Amazon creates on campus with manned employee

Old Business:

New Business:

- **Confirm the Appointment of:**
 - Carla Ramazan
 - Undeclared Freshman
 - Like working with people; SG is good at effecting campus
 - Akshay Mawle
 - Graduate Student
 - Wants to be a voice for graduate students

- Secretary of Toastmaster
- JW: Please ask more questions to the appointments in person
- **All Approved**
- **Rebecca: Moves to open a discussion on the Know Your Rights Card**
 - Design suggestions for Karine:
 - Haris: have a different know your rights card for immigrants
 - Addison: We tried to keep legibility in mind
 - Kiyanoush agrees with Haris
 - Nikki: Can we add that SG provides legal services
 - Keishi: Will it be legible in business card format
 - Becca: we will do that for next time
 - Dhiren: Enlarge text, minimize symbols
 - Christian F: Can we make this a series?
 - Sammy: Immigration is worth keeping on there b/c of urgency in circumstance of arrest
 - Nina: How about more text on the front instead of just SG logo; use new SG logo
 - Becca: We will be working on translating this
 - Will get costs on folding
 - Further discussion on which design worked best; majority indicated preference for the right (contact Rebecca Tjahja Rebecca.Tjahja@utdallas.edu if you wish to be sent designs)
- **Nikki: Move to open 5 minute discussion on the confirmation process for Senators**
 - Alex: Would like to see more competition in confirmation
 - Ben: disagrees with Alex, ("what if we have all qualified applicants?")
 - Adam: Have bios in advance with the minutes
 - Danni: Voting in unison creates peer pressure
 - Secret voting is more effective
 - Becca: All these applicants go through EC; maybe EC is not as selective as it should be
 - Christian F: Nice to be looking at quality of person instead of major/school
 - David: We shouldn't change appointment process
 - It's already a hard process -> keep it how it is
 - Eric: Two choices: Give power to Senate or refer to EC
 - JW: Remember that this process is not formalized -> it is subjective
 - Adam: Appointments are easier than elections
 - In response to Christian F: Weighting less-represented schools is important
 - Dhiren: Send applications prior to EC instead of having EC speed read application on the day of meeting
 - C. De Lara: Interview with specific committee
 - Nikki agrees: Add more senators to interview process, add someone from the preferred committee of applicant
 - Jason: Last year EC wanted to join the interview process as well

Adjournment