Application Form to Submit Legislation to the GSS Executive Committee

Author: Rep. Jason Robison,
       UOSA Interior Director Rainey Sewell,
       Rep. Ranya Fogotson,
       Rep. Tonya Kiper

Title of Legislation: “Freshman Council Act of 2011 JDR”
Type of Legislation: Act of Legislation

Section 1: Status Quo
Currently, a freshman UOSA mentorship program does not exist and often time’s new students are not aware of the student government. This legislation provides the opportunity for students to learn the processes of the student government.

Section 2: Intent of Legislation
The intent of this legislation is to create a freshman mentorship where these students would have the opportunity to work with UOSA leaders in all branches of the student government.

Section 3: Anticipated Harms and Benefits of the new Legislation
The benefits of the legislation enable new students to the university the ability to learn the facets of the student government early in their academic career of all UOSA branches. This mentorship experience would help facilitate new, more diverse UOSA leadership.
THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT ASSOCIATION
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION LXXXV
April 05, 2011

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GS-11
April 10, 2011

CONGRESSIONAL BILL NO. 850305
SENATE BILL NO.GS11-18

AS INTRODUCED
An act relating to the UOSA; establishing a new Title and Chapter
In the UOSACA, adding a new chapter; providing a short title; stating
Purpose; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT ASSOCIATION:

Section 1: TITLE. This act shall be known and cited as the “Freshman Council Act of 2011 JDR”.

Section 2: PURPOSE. The purpose of this act is to enable the freshman students of the University of Oklahoma to make a greater impact and assert their voices.

Section 3: NEW LAW. In accordance with Article III Section 5 (1) of the UOSA Constitution, “The Legislative Branch shall make campus-wide student rules and regulations, and appropriate revenues of the UOSA.” The UOSACA is hereby amended to include a new Titles and chapter to read as follows:

Title XV, Chapter 1
UOSA Sooner Freshman Council, General Provisions

1. Name
The UOSA Sooner Freshman Council shall be established. This organization shall be independent of any one-branch of the UOSA.

2. UOSA Internship
All members of the UOSA Sooner Freshman Council shall be placed by the Chair and Vice Chairs of the UOSA Sooner Freshman Council within all UOSA Branches under the mentorship of the leadership of the respective UOSA leadership. The internship shall not exceed one academic semester with any one-office or branch before being rotated to another position.

3. Responsibilities and Requirements
The Chair and Vice Chairs of the UOSA Sooner Freshman Council in consultation with the UOSA Branch Leadership shall establish the responsibilities and requirements for members of the council before applications are made available.

4. Chair and Vice Chairs / Student Advisors
There shall be one (1) Chair and two (2) Vice Chairs of the UOSA Sooner Freshman Council to lead the council for one academic year beginning with their legislative confirmation. These positions shall be selected by a panel made up of the following positions or their designees: UOSA President, Chair of the UOSA Undergraduate Student Congress, and Chair of the UOSA Campus Activities Council. The nominees must then be confirmed with advice and consent of the Legislative Branch in order to officially serve. In the event of a vacancy of the chair, the UOSA Vice President shall serve as the chair during the interim. In the event of a vacancy of a vice chair, the Vice Chair of the UOSA Undergraduate Student Congress and then the Vice Chair of the UOSA Campus Activities Council shall serve as a vice chair during the interim.

5. Membership Selection Procedures
All freshman or first year students are eligible to apply. Application shall be created and made available at least by July 1st each year. The Chair and Vice Chairs of the UOSA Sooner Freshman Council shall be responsible for providing sufficient advertising of the applications for the council. The Applications shall be due the second week of classes on Friday. The Chair and Vice Chairs shall review the applications and select up to 80 applicants for interviews. The Chair and Vice Chairs of the UOSA Sooner Freshman Council shall then conduct interviews and select up to 60 applicants to be members of the UOSA Sooner Freshman Council. The Chair and Vice Chairs may extend these deadlines if there is unanimous agreement.

6. Internal Proceedings
The UOSA Sooner Freshman Council shall establish rules of procedure for the internal operations for the organization. These rules shall be published and available to students upon request. Any proposed and adopted rule changes must be sent to the top three leaders in all UOSA branches in order to be considered valid.

   a. Meetings
   The UOSA Sooner Freshman Council shall conduct at a minimum of two meetings per month during the academic semester. As with all governmental meetings including all branches of the UOSA, the meetings shall be open to the public and are subject to the Oklahoma Open Meetings Act.

7. Powers and Authority
The UOSA Sooner Freshman Council shall be empowered to create any such committees, boards, commissions, or other such entities that it deems necessary in order to further its purpose.

8. Funding and Student Advisement
The UOSA Sooner Freshman Council shall be provided financial support from the UOSA branches. The student advisor shall be the UOSA Vice President.

9. Report
The Chair and Vice Chairs shall present a report of their progress and goals at least once a month to the legislature.

Section 4: This act supersedes all previous legislation concerning this matter.
Section 5: This act is hereby enacted.
Section 6: This legislation will become effective immediately when passed in accordance with the UOSA Constitution.

Author: Rep. Jason Robison, Social Science District, UOSA Undergraduate Student Congress
Co-Sponsors: Rep. Tonya Kiper, Communications District, UOSA Undergraduate Student Congress
Senator NAME NAME, Department of NAME, UOSA Graduate Student Senate
Ranya Forgottson, Officer, UOSA Interior Department
Rainey Sewell, Director of the Interior Department, UOSA Executive Branch

Reviewing Committee: Executive & Congressional Administration
Committee Recommendation: Do Pass, 8-0-0

Submitted on a Motion by: Representative Forrest Bennett, Seconded by Representative Kelbie Kennedy
Action taken by the Undergraduate Student Congress: Passed 25-0-0

Verified by Congress Chair: ___________________________ Date: ______
Submitted on a Motion by:
Action taken by the Graduate Student Senate:

Verified by Senate Chair: ___________________________ Date: ______
Approved by UOSA President: ___________________________ Date: ______
Approved by University President: ___________________________ Date: ______