

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION  
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES  
March 9, 2014 7:00 P.M.  
Sarkeys Energy Center, Room A235, Conference Room**

**Call to Order-** Jerry Overton 7:03

Senator 34 makes a motion to amend agenda to include GS 14-08 Filing Extension Deadline to be added to special orders, second by Senator 46.

Motion to vote by Senator 46, second Senator 45, no objections, passes by unanimous consent.

**Reading and Approval of the Minutes:** Move to approve Senator 38, second Senator 6. No objections, minutes of 2/16/13 meeting are approved.

**Chair-** We are getting down to the half-way point of the semester, we have three more meetings, we will have to elect officers for next year, need to consider whether you are interested in being an officer for this group, last year we did not start out with a vice chair or secretary for six weeks, in the best interests of the senate ask if you can fulfill it, look at eligibility requirements, would be a really good thing to consider so that we end the year with a full slate of officers.

**Vice Chair-** We will be looking at attendances and sending out notices of bad standing.

**Secretary-** No Report

**Committee Reports:**

**Academic Affairs-** No Report

**Development and Philanthropy-** We have been in contact with hands helping paws, once we have an update, we will let you know.

**External Affairs-** No Report

**Human Diversity-** We have a couple of things, Big Event is held every year, we are past the due date but we will see if they will add a volunteer group, want to plan a potluck dinner mid to late April in the art museum.

**Internal Affairs-** No Report

**Problems and Projects-** We can team up with diversity.

**Public Relations-** No Report

**Ways and Means-** Grants turned in a week ago, there are about 103 grants, unlike last semester we'll split grading into two sections, did one today, two next meeting.

Jerry- When will we have a final decision for Ways and Means?

Ways and Means- The very beginning of April.

External affair- We have collected survey responses, we will draft a letter to advise two departments to be in line with the rest of the university, most departments will probably listen to our inputs.

### **Special Orders**

Motion by Senator 88 to move GS 14-07 and GS 14-09 to Special Orders, second by Senator 45.

Vote on moving these bills to Special Orders, no opposition, bills are moved by unanimous consent.

GS 14-07 The Concurring Resolution directing the maintenance of access to affordable higher education at all public institutions in the State of Oklahoma

Senator 34: On information, should the Vice Chair chair because of bias due to the Chair being a coauthor?

Jerry- Ok.

[Chair and Vice Chair trade places temporarily]

John: This resolution is that the state would like to cut funding further, we want to say enough is enough, will accept a friendly amendment to add additional supporters.

Senator 34: Do mind me seeing this so I can do the friendly amendment?

Senator 34: Follow-up, are you guys planning on renaming the file?

John: I don't plan on renaming the file.

Senator 6: This bill is purely symbolic, what's the downside if we don't pass it?

John- It is not symbolic, it is voicing the opinions of the student body, sends a clear message, the SGA has taken minimal steps towards combating these ridiculous cuts.

Senator 77: What has President Boren done?

John: President Boren has taken out advertising to write an opinion about these cuts.

Vice chair: Motion to amend list of supporters, second by Senator 34.

Friendly amendment accepted

Motion to pass by unanimous consent by Senator 86, second by Senator 5, no objections, bill passes.

GS 14-09 The Parking Appeals Appointment Board

Motion to bring to the floor by Senator 86, second by Senator 45, bill brought to the floor.

[Author speaks on the bill.]

Senator 34: Motion to pass by unanimous consent, second by Senator 31, no opposition, bill passes.

GS 14-08 Filing Extension Deadline Motion to bring 45, 29, no oppsotion

Filing extension act is on floor

Senator 34: Is the chair aware it is available on SGA website.

Jerry- Yes.

Matt- Filing for the Spring SGA elections ended Feb 7, deadline was publicized, on Tuesday before deadline 500 signatures collected, we are the only candidates right now, we don't want the deadline extended.

Senator 34: Can you give me an estimate of how each position would increase?

There will be definite increases

75: when and how were students notified of the date change

Author- it has been predetermined then the time came to change the dates, we corrected the dates

75: how was the student body informed

Author- Up until the first ten days of February, then we looked through code annotated, form was only online for a couple days.

Senator 75: Follow-up, did you committee send out a mass communication? Did you send out an email explicitly?

Author- No, only word of mouth.

34: If we are to pass this, how will students know this filing extension exists?

Author- All proper means of PR will be used

Senator 31: If we pass it, by the end of the night would we see an email sent out?

Author- It has to pass Student Congress as well. However, no one has turned in financial reports yet.

Senator 31: This is a process to get them in?

Author- Yes.

Senator 34: Are you aware that the first time any advisors were addressed for elections was the 25<sup>th</sup> of February?

Author- I was not aware.

John: Is the chair aware this has to pass by 2/3s authority?

Jerry- No, but I am aware now.

George- The legislation process is that if it passes by 2/3s, it doesn't go into effect until signed or left on desk for seven days, with the deadlines we have, we don't know what Madalin will do, might be that dates get changed and Madalin signs after it is passed, for it to be meaningful then filing dates would have to be allowed for Madalin to sign it.

Senator 34: Are you aware of when additional meetings candidates will have to go to will be scheduled?

Author: All can be decided according to whether this bill passes.

Senator 20: Only 13 people applied for 21 positions?

Author- Only 13 people applied.

Senator 20: There are still vacant positions. Out of fairness, some people met the deadline.

Author- If things are going to be open, everything should be open, each position should be open.

Senator 34: If we are to amend the filing dates what would be the absolute latest you would accept?

Author- We would want a minimum of one day.

Senator 34: Could you answer the absolute latest you'd be okay with?

Author- Where ten days begin, one day after it.

Senator 75: Do you know how many people took incorrect forms?

Author- No.

Senator 5 [to Matt]: When did you begin your filing process?

Matt: I did my research several months in advance and calculated dates in advanced, talked with George, I had never seen the March dates publicized, thought it was February.

Senator 34: Would you change the deadline to spring break?

Author: No.

Senator 34: What about the 24<sup>th</sup> after spring break?

Author- Yes

Senator 34: Are there any regulations against oral campaigning previous to a filing or attending meetings?

Author- No, we only control social media and financial aspects.

Matt: Campus wide elections spending cap of 2000 dollars, a lot of time students will make arrangements for Greek organizations, both made arrangements but since we were unopposed we cancelled those arrangements while we thought we were unopposed, we no longer have that funding, in the months prior to filing I've made plans with the assumption we've been running against other candidates, since we're unopposed we haven't reached out to certain groups

Senator 10: In the event that this doesn't pass, what is the procedure for fulfilling the vacancies?

Author- There is no other election, only appointment.

Senator 88: There is confusion about new dates, the existing dates are according to the code are established, no concrete dates written down, standing policy, when talking about new dates what dates were published.

Author- The only official publicized dates were the last week of February, to make everything fair, to get a good voter turnout, thought it best to extend filing deadline.

Senator 31 [to Matt]: Do you expect to have stiffer competition if we extend the filing dates?

Matt: I have no idea

Senator 48 [to author]: You have said that reopening would increase dates, do you think students would respond by voting?

Author- Yes, I think there would be more voting, but the real reason is to give everyone an equal footing.

Senator 34: Are you aware that there was nothing posted on the OU website about filing dates or the election dates? Is the chair aware we have been looking for these dates and have not been notified?

Jerry: No.

Senator 75 calls for a placard vote, second by Senator 88, no objections.

Placards in favor: 72 86 71 12 32 45 31 76 75 34 85 83 80 7 8 56 22 21 33

Placards opposed 23 11 10 6 5 52 55 20 19 78 57 97 46 38 37 88 98 13 77 29 47 48 79 53 89 62  
41

The bill does not pass.

Senator 38: In special orders, I would just like to give consideration to next meeting being on last day of spring break, would be in favor of majority vote to move meeting.

Chair- Entertain motion to move from one date to another, it is currently on the next Sunday of spring break, move to 30<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Senator 38, second by Senator 45.

Senator 5: Will we meet two weeks in a row?

Jerry- Yes

Motion on floor

Two opposed, next meeting will be on 30<sup>th</sup>.

GS14-04 Emergency Allocation Act #10

Motion by Senator 75, second by Senator 86, bill is on floor.

Ozaire: This is the tenth emergency funding, we interviewed 3 organizations, we allocated \$1,715 to these organizations.

75: What is the Oklahoma group?

Author- They help consult non profits.

Motion by Senator 75 to pass by unanimous consent, second Senator 20, no opposition, bill passes.

#### GS14-05 Election Voting Procedures Act

Motion to bring to floor by Senator 45, second by Senator 34, no opposition.

Author- Went through title VII, changed a few different things, defined what a majority was, now 50% plus 1, 2000 dollars for all campaign spending, deadline is moved to 4 p.m. from 5 p.m., allowed campaigns to distribute buttons, better procedures for runoffs, if three people are running for two slots, changes fines violations, added three strikes, violate three or more time can be disqualified.

Senator 34: Does this first addition of 50% plus 1, if there are three presidential platforms, does the person still need 50% plus 1?

Author- Yes

Senator 88: Why three strikes as opposed to one or two?

Author- Three strikes is a common phrase, if you make three mistakes, we will take into account whether they are on purpose and act accordingly.

Senator 34: If we pass, would this go into effect for this election?

Author- Yes, ma'am.

Move to pass by unanimous consent by Senator 20, second by Senator 31, no opposition, bill passes.

#### GS14-06 Where Do I Vote Act-Polling Locations for the Spring 2014 Election

Motion to bring bill to the floor by Senator 45, second by Senator 86, bill on floor.

Ovik: Three polling sites, people barely showed up, bringing it down to one, same process but only one place.

Motion to pass by unanimous consent by Senator 34, second by Senator 31, no objections, bill passes.

**Announcements:**

Jerry: The next meeting is on the 30<sup>th</sup>

George: If you are interested in running for leadership position, ask me.

Senator 75: Still need three volunteers for executive committees- graduate council, scholarship appropriation.

Jerry- We need two volunteers for graduate council, one for scholarship committee.

**Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn by Senator 45, second by Senator 75, no objections.

Meeting adjourned 8:09 p.m.