

**THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

**UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
Session XC**

**General Body Meeting
7:00 pm, Tuesday, October 1, 2013
Adams Hall 150**

Session XC

Roll Call -

Flag Salute

Approval of Minutes

Naqvi sec Bourland

Carlough objection, no printing by SGA at bottom

Chair's Report-

- South oval SGA office, will count as constituency service
- SBA funding, sent in application late, appealed the decision and asked general counsel for an ad-hoc committee to review their funding. Committee will probably meet next week, one other spot is open for the committee

Vice Chair's Report-

- Fill out the doodle sent on the email, come out for the south oval SGA event

Secretary's Report-

- Send me constituency service and show up to committee meetings

Committee Reports-

- **AA:** did not meet
- **CA:** will be meeting to appoint new members next week
- **EA:** will meet next sunday
- **P&P:** missed one person to hold the meeting, still discussed problems
- **PR:** did not meet
- **WAM:**

Naqvi: SBA is an administrative organization within SGA, responsible for the law school clubs. SBA thought the applications were due the week after they were, confusion regarding the due date.

Decided it would not be fair to accept their application late, budget committee voted to not accept their budget. Ad-hoc committee will be formed to look over their appeal. Held interviews this week and will be deciding on actual budget soon.

Liaison Reports

Special Orders

Carlough: it would be against the order to let the president speak first.

Carlough: according to standing rules, an appeal of the decision of the chair must go to a vote

Carlough: standing rules are quite clear on how the order should go, explicitly says that representatives may speak before any presentations scheduled.

Montgomery: any representatives wanting to speak during special orders may do so, anyone wanting to vote can do this now. Should have asked representatives of the body if they wanted to speak first.

-Ernest Ezeugo (10 minutes): there's a lot of confusion regarding what the student activity fee committee did this summer. This summer the committee voted to move part of the reserve account into sooner heritage scholarships, also appealed to the regents to change the rules to allow the money to be used for scholarships (generally available scholarships). It is our sincere belief that as a sooner family it is our job to support each other, this was one of our main platform issues, talked to the daily about it and they also seemed supportive.

Printing funded by SGA

Wanted to show that we care about the future of education in Oklahoma. Knew that the people who receive the scholarships would be part of the sooner family, wanted to show our support for them. Vote truly representing your constituents, these are the same people who voted you here and voted us here. This is a one time thing, the administration has continuously tried to get more and more funding for the university but this one is our issue to deal with. We need to work together. We want student involvement in the process, for them to know what we do. We need to help each other and move to alleviate higher education costs for the sooner family. Please come with questions or concerns after the meeting. We need to fulfill the promises we made to the students that we represent.

Bryant: could you elaborate on where the surplus of money came from?

Ezeugo: there was a bond for the renovation of the union, we had extra money from the bond this year. 2% of all student activity fees go to this reserve and every year the student activity fee committee votes on where to spend the money.

Bourland: \$2 raise on study abroad?

Move to extend time for an extra 10 minutes- Carlough, sec Bourland

Ezeugo: I was not here in the spring of 2010 but from my understanding there was a referendum on whether or not the fee should be added to support study abroad scholarship.

Bourland: why was a referendum not done for this allocation of funds?

Ezeugo: this was the means of ensuring that the student body supported the increase, last year this was our main campaign platform. Mentioned this a lot during our campaign, to the daily, the students, during the debate. The students decided if they supported the platform by voting in the election. The rules stand that the reserve committee get to vote on the issues of allocation.

Carlough: did you tell the students that you were raising money for scholarship by using the money from their student activity fee (that is not meant for academic purposes)

Ezeugo: mentioned it explicitly at two gatherings, with the daily. Personal opinion is that there was no increase in fees.

Carlough: so you did not mention it to the wider student body?

Ezeugo: we did mention it that it would come from the student activity fee reserve account.

Carlough: mentioned this point about the allocation being a one time thing, however there was an article in the daily regarding allocating more money and possibly raising the student activity fee to raise more money for scholarships. What prevents this from happening again and possibly raising fees to do it?

Ezeugo: \$25 fee in the article is an additional fee. Cannot pull from the student activity fee reserve to fund more scholarships. However I am not opposed to looking into more options, which is what the committee is for.

Petersen: spoke with editorial board of the daily about all your ideas, the article written at this time does not go into these details that you discussed with them

Ezeugo: we did mention it to them but I did not write the article

Bryant: was this transfer of funds allowed in the regents policy?

Ezeugo: it was not explicitly not allowed... appealed to the regents to add it to the list of things to spend funds on

Move to extend time by 15 minutes- Carlough, sec Shetley

Carlough: everyone in this room wants to support the sooner family, but why jump through so many hoops to fund sooner heritage scholarships. Why not use the money to fund other renovations

Ezeugo: it is still my understanding that we can only bond up to 8 million dollars, through discussions I've had I realized that many of the projects in the works are more expensive than 8 million dollars (more like 33 million dollars). Some of these renovations are for the huff, we would need to pursue more money from donors and the university. A donor had spoken about matching the 8 million dollar bond but that still leaves a lot to fund (17 million dollars left unfunded if it's a 33 million dollar project). Some previous presidents wanted to review classrooms, but these were out of price range

Carlough: who did you talk to about the implications of this

Ezeugo: I've talked to quite a few people in the administration about this plan, the money is committed to being moved into sooner heritage scholarships. We could find ways to reallocate this money.

Bourland: daily editorial article talks about how you meant to go about this. If you were so in favor of government transparency, why did you do this allocation this way?

Ezeugo: we talked to students in person, it wasn't on the website (it was hard to edit).

Howard: explain this sooner heritage scholarship?

Ezeugo: donors fund the scholarship, it was started by Boren

Wolf: what is your advice on talking to students about paying for other students to go to school?

Ezeugo: this is something that nobody is doing alone, we are a sooner family therefore we should try to support each other. There shouldn't be serious concern about the amount each student is giving because it isn't very much. I want to encourage people to become part of the discussion to raise money without using student fees. We're at a time where we need to start making some tough choices.

Petersen: we would have liked to be part of the discussion, would you be against putting this on a referendum ballot?

Ezeugo: yes.

Move to extend time to the end of the list, Bryant sec Carlough

Move to suspend the rules so that Ezeugo can finish answering question- Pascoe w/out objection

Ezeugo: I believe that I have a mandate and so does everyone else on the student activity fee reserve committee to pass this allocation.

Bryant: soooooooo the huff renovation, 33 million dollars and the most we can do is an 8 million dollar bond

Ezeugo: all the plans seemed to involve a lot more money than we could raise. The renovation still can be done.....

Carlough: (reads something about reserve activity fee fund) according to the minutes from the committee it says that the money was going to scholarships but doesn't say specifically sooner heritage scholarships. It has come to our attention that the sooner heritage scholarship has a few criteria.

Ezeugo: the regents policy was adjusted with the guidance of the general counsel. For the criteria, there is one regarding hours and started as a fund for middle income students. Everyone is given consideration for receiving the scholarship.

(regents policy found further down in agenda)

Move to include the regents policy in the minutes- Bryant

Byron: when I talk to my constituents it seemed that no one knows this is happening

Ezeugo: we have the south oval event tomorrow where we can talk about it. First transparency event of the year.

Carlough: intended for families with multiple children in schools or middle income families, I asked if a student in 3 hours can apply for the scholarship. What will you tell that student who can't get the scholarship?

Ezeugo: I would try to find him/her a different scholarship and hope they would be willing to work with me on it. Still stand by the idea that this is a widely available scholarship.

Move to check quorum - Bryant

Student Concerns

-Andrew Carlough (2 minutes): I have received multiple concerns from students regarding this allocation into the Sooner Heritage Scholarship, mostly they were concerned about the fact that they did not get a voice in the vote and that they didn't know details regarding the use of the money. As ConAd chair, it is my duty to ensure that the rules are being followed. The board of regents policy was changed and I have had meetings with the administration regarding who could apply for this scholarship.

Old Business

Items to Be Considered

900307 A Resolution Concerning Student Activity Fee Spending (Pascoe) (Do Pass – Exec)

Naqvi sec Bourland

Pascoe: I believe that we feel that we were not given a voice in the allocation of this money. This is an unprecedented use of the student activity fee reserve fund, it was only allowed recently because of a change in policy. I don't think that the student body voting in the elections was a direct support of this scholarship idea. Although it did have the unanimous vote of the reserve fee committee, it happened during the summer and these representatives of the student body did not have a chance to talk to the student body at large. Most

people I have talked to do not support this allocation of funds, which lends question to the proper use of the funds. This should be seen as a referendum or seen through congress or GSS.

Tsagli: is there a pressing issue that the money could be used for?

Pascoe: other items were not really considered it seems like. Could have paid for any capital expenses (could not spend it directly on student organizations), there are other uses for the money. RSO presidents should have been asked their opinions.

Bryant: friendly amendment on the last whereas clause (constituents to students), changing section 2 inserting without the express consent of the student body, inserting a new section "the OU undergrad congress wishes that the transfer of funds be delayed until other measures are taken..."

Call debate- Carlough 3 minutes

Carlough, Bryant, Petersen, Pascoe all debate

Carlough reads green eggs and ham

Roll call vote 16-0-3

New Business

Follow-Up Reports

Montgomery: I will sign the legislation and I will hand it to President Boren directly.

Carlough: thanks to the new members that were appointed for being involved in the process.

Items for Future Agenda

Naqvi: emergency allocation #3 (WAM)

Carlough: an act appointing new members (ConAd)

Petersen: an act for limits on contingency accounts (WAM)

Bryant: resolution authorizing a survey of the students (EA)

Announcements and Comments

Carlough: storytime at oconnells after this.

Montgomery: Beverages after congress....

Pascoe: thanks to exec for coming out this our meeting!!!! Sign up for the doodle

Ezeugo: thank you for listening to the debate. I'd like to also see a referendum regarding this issue.

Final Roll Call

Move to adjourn- Shetley sec Bryant

Chair: John Montgomery

Vice-Chair: Kristin Pascoe

Secretary: Lauren Aragon

University of Oklahoma Regents Policy 5.8

STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE, NORMAN CAMPUS

Student Activity Fee funds are that portion of the University's budget that are earmarked by the State Regents for Higher Education for student governmental, recreational, social and entertainment programs, health care services, and student publications, and generally available student scholarships. It is the responsibility of the Board of Regents to see that the Student Activity Fee funds are utilized to support needs in these extracurricular areas.

The President, as chief executive officer, presents recommendations to the Board of Regents on the distribution of all University funds, including the Student Activity Fee funds.

As the officer of the University most directly related to non-academic matters of student life, the University Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students has immediate administrative responsibility for that portion of the University budget funded by Student Activity fees, as well as the budget units funded from this source.

The action of The University of Oklahoma Student Association ("UOSA") Undergraduate Student Congress and the Graduate Student Senate shall be considered a recommendation to the President and to the Board of Regents in the same manner as other budget recommendations.

Student Activity Fee Committee recommendations from UOSA are forwarded through the University Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students to the President. All policy recommendations should follow the same administrative route.

The Board of Regents shall allocate to UOSA "that portion of the Student Activity Fee which has not been otherwise obligated by the Regents."

The use of state money (the Student Activity Fee is so defined) must have statutory and University controls. In order to provide assistance with the preparation of and adherence to the UOSA budget and to insure that all transactions are in conformance with University and state policies and requirements, a full-time professional staff member from the Student Affairs area selected by the University Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students shall serve as sponsor of all UOSA student government accounts. Additionally, the Office of Student Affairs shall maintain a set of accounting records for each of the UOSA government accounts and provide this information to the account sponsor. The account sponsor will not be authorized to withhold any disbursements that meet State and University requirements.

The following guidelines shall govern the distribution of the Student Activity Fee and shall supersede any previous conflicting action of the Board of Regents concerning the role of the UOSA Undergraduate Student Congress with regard to appropriations:

- 1) The University Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students is charged with the administrative responsibility for those services and programs funded from the Student Activity Fee, and is expected to recommend to the President the budgets for those services and programs,

including but not limited to, Goddard Health Center, Counseling and Testing Services, The Oklahoma Daily, Sooner Yearbook, Recreational Services, and Campus Transportation. Because of the obvious student interest in these budget units, the following budget procedure is established to insure student input from the UOSA:

- The Executive Budget Committee of the UOSA will be established consisting of the UOSA President, Chair of the Undergraduate Student Congress, and Chair of Graduate Student Senate.
- As soon as possible in the Spring, the Executive Budget Committee of the UOSA will meet with the University Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students for the purpose of reviewing the proposed budget for the following year and the probable distribution of that amount to the various units, so that the budget preparations for the UOSA can begin.
- The University Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students has the basic responsibility for the preparation of budget recommendations for those portions of the Student Activity Fee funds going to regularly committed budgets.
- It is the primary responsibility of the Executive Budget Committee to prepare budget recommendations for the uncommitted portions of the Student Activity Fee funds, which will support the activities of student government, activities and services sponsored by student government, and registered student organizations in existence for more than one year.
- The Executive Budget Committee and the University Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students will then prepare the final budget recommendations for the total Student Activity Fee funds distribution. Neither shall submit budget recommendations for further review until agreement between them has been reached. Should agreement not be reached, the President shall refer the matter to the Norman Campus Committee of the Board of Regents, which shall formulate and present the Student Activity budget directly to the Board of Regents.
- The Executive Budget Committee will submit the UOSA portion of the budget for review by the Undergraduate Student Congress and Graduate Student Senate prior to the end of the Spring semester and identify in that budget those amounts allocated to the budget sub-divisions. A line item budget will be presented to the Board of Regents for approval each Fall.
- The recommendations of the Undergraduate Student Congress and Graduate Student Senate shall be submitted to the President through the Office of the University Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students for submission to the Board of Regents for approval.

2) Each year, 2% of the total Student Activity Fee funds shall be placed in a reserve account prior to any distribution in order to be used by the administration throughout the year for

necessary services, facilities, and programs relevant to the intended use of the Student Activity Fee (repairing recreational facilities, assisting campus-wide program, solving unanticipated budget problems, funding long-range projects such as the construction of outdoor basketball courts, etc.). The University Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students shall be the sponsor of this reserve account, and shall chair a committee composed of himself or herself, the President of UOSA, Chair of UOSA Undergraduate Student Congress, Chair of the Graduate Student Senate, and Chair of the Campus Activities Council in recommending disbursements. In the event of disagreement, separate views will be presented to the President for decision. The reserve shall not be used to fund the program of student organizations or those activities for which it is the proper function of UOSA Undergraduate Student Congress and Graduate Student Senate to fund. This should in no way preclude UOSA from establishing its own reserve account from its allocated funds.

3) To benefit University students, when such funds are available, after consultation with the Executive Budget Committee, the University Vice President for Student Affairs and the President may recommend to the Board of Regents that a portion of Student Activity Fee funds be distributed to University scholarships. Only those scholarships which are available to any enrolled University student may be funded by Student Activity Fee funds.

4) The remaining portion of the Student Activity Fee funds shall be used to fund the Student Government and those programs recommended by the UOSA Undergraduate Student Congress and Graduate Student Senate, so long as they are within the guidelines created by the State Regents for Higher Education and the Board of Regents. Although the Board of Regents has the responsibility to commit the Student Activity Fee funds where they are most needed within the student community, it is intended that this uncommitted portion appropriated to UOSA will not be less than \$350,000 per year.

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION XC
October 1, 2013

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION NO. 900307

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Resolution expressing the disapproval of the Student Body towards the use of Student Activity Fees for the Sooner Heritage Scholarship; and providing distribution

- Whereas: Every single student at the University of Oklahoma pays a Student Activity Fee; and
- Whereas: Each year, 2% of the Student Activity Fee goes to the Student Activity Fee Reserve Account; and
- Whereas: “The Student Activity Fee is that portion of the University’s budget which is set aside to be utilized for nonacademic programs and services for students”; and
- Whereas: The stated purpose of this Student Activity Fee Reserve Account is to fund “student activities which have substantial campus-wide effects”; and
- Whereas: The highest expense in the past five years was a \$99,860 expenditure in 2010 to add more treadmills in the Huston Huffman Fitness Center; and
- Whereas: The Student Activity Fee Reserve Committee voted to reallocate \$500,000 from the Student Activity Reserve Account to the Sooner Heritage Scholarship to benefit a maximum of 1,000 students; and
- Whereas: The Sooner Heritage Scholarship is only for “middle-income students whose families don’t qualify for federal assistance but still need a helping hand with college expenses. Sooner Heritage also helps families who have more than one child attending college”; and
- Whereas: The Sooner Heritage Scholarship requires applicants to be enrolled in at least six hours to qualify; and
- Whereas: This reallocation directly conflicts with the use of the Student Activity Fee Reserve to provide “substantial campus-wide effects”; and
- Whereas: The majority of constituents have not been asked their opinion on the use of the Student Activity Fee Reserve Fund for scholarships; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

- Section 1:** The University of Oklahoma Undergraduate Student Congress does not condone the use of the Student Activity Fee Reserve Account funds for scholarships without the express consent of the student body.

Section 2: The University of Oklahoma Undergraduate Student Congress urges that the transfer of \$500,000 to the Sooner Heritage Scholarship be delayed with either 1) a concurrent resolution passes both the Undergraduate Student Congress and the Graduate Student Senate demonstrating support for the measure or 2) a ballot referendum demonstrates the express support of the student body.

Section 3: The University of Oklahoma Undergraduate Student Congress does not condone raising the Student Activity Fee, without the express consent of the student body, to support scholarships since it is against the original purpose of the Student Activity Fee.

Section 4: Copies of this resolution will be sent to:
David Boren, President of the University of Oklahoma
The University of Oklahoma Board of Regents
Clarke Stroud, Dean of Students
Brynn Daves, Director for Student Affairs Operations and Student Programs
Susan Sasso, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
George Ahmadi, Assistant Director for Student Programs and SGA Adviser
Linda Patison, Director of Financial Services
Ernest Ezuego, President of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association
Madeline Grunewald, Vice President of the Student Government Association
Sam Kiehl, Chairman of Campus Activities Counsel
Jerry Overton, Chairman of Graduate Student Senate
KatieBeth Gardner, Public Relations Chair for the Campus Activities Council
Colby Brown, Representative in the Undergraduate Student Congress
Jacob Vidourek, Senator in Graduate Student Senate
Thomas Owens, Treasurer for the Campus Activities Council
Patrick McSweeney, Director of Exterior for the Executive Branch
Aspen Real, member of the Department of the Exterior in the Executive Branch
Rachel Montgomery, reporter from the *OU Daily*
Alyssa Loveless, a Senator in Graduate Student Senate
The Oklahoma Daily

Authors: Kristin Pascoe, Vice Chair, Student Congress

Co-Sponsor: Andrew Carlough, Chair, Student Congress Congressional Administration Committee
Ozair Naqvi, Chair, Student Congress Ways and Means Committee
Mitchell Bryant, Chair, Student Congress External Affairs Committee
Lindsey Weiss, Chair, Student Congress Academic Affairs Committee

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Naqvi, second Representative Bourland

Action taken by Congress: Passed by roll call vote, 16-0-3

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____