



October 25, 2019
SENATE

Call to Order at 2:30PM
Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: 25

Absent: 4

Adoption of the Agenda
Adoption Passes

Approval of the Minutes

Senator Arnold moved to amend "Director Hunter" to "Director Lyons" under "Public Statement".

Seconded by Senator Rogers

Motion passes.

Guest Speakers

Dr. Blood: I am the Director of Speech and Debate Team. It is one of the oldest intercollegiate activity on campus, and one of the oldest in the country. I ask that as you advocate for the student body, you engage in persuasion. If you could get any student to do just one thing on campus, what would that be?

Senators: Respect and include inclusivity, go to class, vote, go to CAB events, etc...

Dr. Blood: Think about a public figure that you think about that first came to mind. Imagine you are the person that you selected. You are on an airplane and it is you and your partner's person, and the plane is about to go down. There is only one parachute. Who should get that parachute? Think about what you just did. You are deciding to do something. You are advocating for something. It is the act of persuasion for you to persuade someone. There are four basic steps in persuasion: issue awareness,

comprehension, get someone to see eye-to-eye with you, and... My office is in building 36 room 124. I can forward information about the team and tournaments.

Dr. Stubbs: Do you have any advice for students who find it difficult to assert themselves in a discussion?

Dr. Blood: If you are nervous, there are a couple of things you can do. Do it often and speak to your passion. The best argument is about the situation and not the people.

***Anybody can join. There are multiple tournaments throughout the year. When you participate in the tournament depends on how ready you are. ***

Old Business: N/A

New Business: N/A

Appointments

Freshman Committee:

Abbie Hopper
Elena Patterson
KJ Allen

3 Freshmen sworn into the Freshmen Committee Class of 2019 – 2020

Chair Miller motioned for a 5-minute recess

Seconded by Vice-Chair Rau

Vote:

No: 0

Motion Passes

5-Minute Recess starts at 3:03PM

Senate resume at 3:08PM

Rules Committee:

Senator Ortiz of the College of Business
Senator Rogers of the College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities
Senator Arnold of the College of Education and Professional Studies
Senator Mary-Sheldon Williams of the Usha Kundu, MD College of Health
Senator Temani Williams of the Hal Marcus College of Science and Engineering

Supreme Court:

Senator Morrison moved for a block swearing-in

Seconded by Chair Gardner.

Vote:

No: 0

Passes

Kala LaCroix

Questions:

Debate:

Senator Rogers: I debate in favor of Kala. She is not bias. She is going to school for this for her living.

Senator Contreras: I am in favor of her. She is super passionate, and she has knowledge of this position.

Senator Baptiste: I am in favor of her. She is also a non-profit member that helps initiatives out in Haiti.

Vote:

No: 1

Approved

Personal Point of Privilege by Chair Miller

Bree Conner

Questions:

Senator Trans: How does mock trial help you in this position?

Bree: Rules are part of mock trials. It is helpful to get an idea of what different elements I have to look at.

Debate:

Senator Rogers: I debate in favor of her. She is very knowledgeable in this situation.

Chief Negron: She has very good experience in court. She is a very seasoned candidate.

Vote:

No: 1

Approved

Paris Harmon

Questions:

Debate:

Senator Baptiste: I don't know her but to get into Stanford is a very big deal. Her major is distinct from the other two candidates, so she

Senator Trans: Her major is distinct from the other two candidates and I think she will bring a new face to the Supreme Court.

Vice-Chair Bosso: I think she has a very positive aspect that she is able to bring that is not related to SGA.

Chair Negron: She is phenomenal. The way she handles certain situations

Vote:

No: 1

Approved

3 new Supreme Court Justices appointed

Personal Point of Privilege by Vice President Calvert with Senate Pro Tempore Gaytan stepping in to lead the Senate

Legislative Addresses

Senate Addresses

Senator Contreras: I will be transferring to a different school. I asked that if there will be someone that would be able to help out and take over my

University Outreach Committee:

Chair Miller: We started the Green Fee process. SEAS came in today to look over the submitted proposals. I hope to be done with this process two meetings from now.

Chair Kennedy: Next WOW is November 6th.

Chair Gardner and Vice-Chair Rau: Updates on the Budget. DAESA requested a loan for \$40,000 during the Summer. DAESA came back in the beginning of October saying that they have lost the paperwork to return back the funding. The Budget and Allocation Committee asked the Senate for advice on what we should do.

Senator Rogers: If we do not get the money back, will we still have to fund them for next year?

Chair Gardner: That is what we are asking the advice for, on what we should do.

Senator Temani: If we do not get it back, how will this affect SGA?

Chair Gardner: We would lose money to fund other projects that would need the money.

Senator Johnson: So, our options are to take the lost or cut their budget?

Chair Gardner: Yes

Senator Arnold: Can we get a point of information from Ben or Jenny?

Senator Morrison yield her time to Dr. Stubbs

Dr. Stubbs: Argo Arrival's proposal for this year is to reserve funds from the A&S Fees. We would normally request funding from the President's office. They would let us know if we will get the funds or not during the Summer but would not get the physical funding until October.

Senator Mary-Sheldon: So, the money that is missing could no longer go towards campus organizations?

Chair Gardner: That money could have gone to other organizations that needed the money.

Dr. Stubbs: The intent was to use the funds to spend throughout the year rather than wait until October to fund any Argo Arrival projects.

Senator Gibbs: Is it possible that there is miscommunication? Is it possible for us to have more time?

Chief Negrón: Miscommunications do happen. However, when we met with them, we made it clear on what the money was for and where it was going and that we would get it back.

Chair Miller: Were you (Chair Gardner) the Budget Chair at the time? Did this happen in the Spring? I don't like the fact that it was an informal

meeting and they may have been taking advantage of you, since you were new.

Chair Gardner: Correct.

Point of Privilege by Senator Rogers

Executive Addresses

President Johnson: I am making an Executive Order to form an ad hoc committee to investigate the situation. We must come together from different branches so that we may come up with an agreement concerning this situation. Rally in Tally is in November. We will be focusing on textbook affordability, housing, and mental health. Chief Negron and I have met with Aramark. We came to the agreement to donate unused meal plans to the Argo Pantry.

Personal Point of Privilege by Senator Mettlach

Chief Negron: Shout out to Chair Kennedy for helping to get us responses for the library. I have a meeting with Senator Arnold to discuss ADA. I need you to stay after Senate if you signed up for Rally in Tally. We are updating the SGA logo. Our hope is to make the current logo as our primary logo and get a seal for official documents.

Treasurer Tobar: Update on budget.

Cabinet Addresses

Director Lott: See me afterward to get your polos. Freshman Committee please contact me. I want to highlight you on Instagram.

Director Lyons: We are hiring for Election Commissioners. If you have friends or someone who would be interested, please contact me.

Director Sharpsteen: I have a call with a Senator later on today in hope that we get some sponsors for textbook affordability.

Administrative Address

Dr. Stubbs: I encourage you all to try to see your advisors as partners in these situations. I am trying to do my best to do what you guys need me to be.

Adjournment

Standing Committee Reports

Senator Trans: Committee of Assessment for Student Learning was great. Some changes to gen-ed classes.

Point of Privilege by Senator Norris

Senator Arnold move to discuss the current budget situation

Seconded by Chair Kennedy

Vote:

No: 0

Abstention: 1

Motion Passes

Debate on Budget

Senator Arnold: The ad hoc committee is a good idea. I want to see the Senator's perspectives on this situation and what you guys think. The money that we are talking about is from excess reserves. I don't think there is a blame on any maliciousness activities on this.

Chair Gardner: It was clear that this was a loan.

Senator Johnson: I just think this was a miscommunication. Some people see this one way, and some see this the other.

Chair Miller move for a 10-minute recess

Seconded by Chair Miller

Vote:

No: 1

Abstention: 1

Passes

10-Minute recess starts at 4:09PM

Senate resume early at 4:17PM

Senator Gibbs: I believe this discussion should end. This is a debate about multiple parties and we only have one party facts as of right now. We are going into this debate with an opinion in mind. We should allow the ad hoc committee to discuss this situation and find out all the facts. We can join and try to be in this ad hoc committee so that we may discuss this situation properly. With interest of the students in mind, be open to listening to the debate and have everyone's insight in mind.

President Johnson: I was very specific in what the ad hoc committee will do. They will make recommendations, but in the end the budget committee will make the final decision. Please make this decision rationally.

Chair Gardner: The majority of the committee want the money back. I feel that you guys can give us more insight on this.

Questions for the Debate on Budget

Chair Miller: If the majority of the budget committee want the money back, how will we go about in getting that back? What are the solutions?

Senator Arnold: That is why the ad hoc committee was presented. They will investigate and come up with some recommendations on this situation.

Chair Kennedy: What would the budget Chair do?

Chair Gardner: We can either let the money go or freeze DAESA account.

Chair Miller move to hold \$40,000 from Student Involvement Index 12201

Seconded by Senator Contreras

Questions for Chair Miller's Motion

Senator Gibbs: What does the hold mean?

Chief Negron: The hold would freeze part of Student Involvement's spending account on certain things.

Senator Gibbs: What does the number of the index mean?

Chief Negron: It is just the assigned number of Student Involvement
Senator Tran: What will this affect?

Chief Negron: Office supplies, awards, banquets, golf cart maintenance, etc...

Debate for Chair Miller's Motion:

Vice-Chair Bosso: I support the hold. It will give the ad hoc committee support to allow them time to discuss.

Vote on Chair Miller's Motion

No: 2

Abstention: 2

Motion Passes

Closing Announcements

Vice-Chair Rau: Kit and I went to the Parade Committee today for the Mardi Gras Parade. We decided that SGA could oversee the pre/post party.

Senator Temani: Who is in charge of this?

President Johnson: DAESA, faculty, staff...

Senator Arnold: Thank you to everyone for being respectful in this discussion. It is a tough decision that we did, but we have to do what is best for the students.

Point of Privilege by Senator Contreras

Senator Gibbs: Fright Night is coming up.

Chair Kennedy: We had great results and turnout for the nursing event.

GA Emily: Freshman Committee will still meet after Senate to discuss Fright Night.

Public Statements: N/A

**Chair Gardner Motioned to Adjourn
Seconded by Vice-Chair Bosso**

Final Roll Call

Present: 24

Absent: 5

Adjournment at 4:36PM