



Senate Meeting Minutes
September 18th, 2023

I. Call to Order Matt Matthews

Meeting called to order at 5:06 P.M.

II. Pledge of Allegiance Alexis Mcgehee

III. Moment of Reflection Kyle Hidalgo

IV. Roll Call Victoria Verberne

Alejandra Weir

Alexis Mcgehee

Autumn Smedley

Bailey Milburn

Rosemary Matthews

Ethan Savario

Kyle Hidalgo

~~Levi Spiers~~

Oluwateniola Adenuga

Sabrae Nasset

Victoria Verberne

Zachary Poche

Alex Soule

12/13 Senators Present, quorum has been met

V. Approval of Minutes Matt Matthews

Minutes stand approved.

VI. Guest Speaker Dr. Eric Summers, Vice President of Student Affairs

Thank you Vice President Matthews for allowing me to come today. I like to address you and I like for you to be able to address me. You should be able to bring issues forward to people like me. You are the representatives for students. You should not take your roles lightly. Put the millions of dollars to good use for the students. We should fight to have students involved and get them connected, especially Freshman. This money is your tuition, so use it for all of the students. Make sure to give the SGA president and university president what they want within reason. You represent students. With these things, you are on the right track.

I am here to talk to you today about the investiture. This is the handing of the key to the new president. This transfer is official December 1st. We need to have the support of students present. I am asking you all to support a bill saying that you support the president. I am in Dyson 126, so come see me if you need anything. I am the vice president of student affairs and like to speak with you all.

Vice President Matthews: If you have any questions about the investiture you can also come talk to us big three with any questions if you find Dr. Summers intimidating because we all stand on the board planning this event. If you have any questions, though, please do come talk to someone.

Dr. Summers: You are allowed to not agree with our decisions, so let us know any time you disagree with something we decide so that we can discuss it.

Chief Beckner, Director of University Police

Speaker will speak next week.

VII. Reports

A. SGA President: Lacey Johnson

Friday I was at the meeting with Student Body Presidents.

I was also asked to stand on the committee for the state

I saw lots of gaps within the system. This has to do with Title 9. I am going to start planning a mandatory SGA event after the senate where a title 9 representative will

come to educate us. We will also have safe space ally training. There is also a fierce conversation happening where members are not coming to events. The civic engagement food pantry competition drive with the ULS system. We did the shampoo bottles last year, and students did not want to contribute. There will be another presidential search committee for LA Tech. Cathay Johnson is UNO's new president (The second in history). The ULS system board will be writing a ULS resolution to have a class excuse day if you are able to vote. This voting is public. This will allow everyone to vote even if you are not from here. I am looking into our library hours to make sure they were not cut during COVID. The bus trip is coming up so please apply and volunteer for the tabling. Make sure to support Aliyah for the voter registration drive. We are one SGA so help if you are able to even if not your branch. Student life will be doing a tailgate for homecoming. Last year, Bailey advocated with those that had her autoimmune disease. She campaigned for this, and I am going to find a way to keep this going. In October, we will have a pink photo shoot supporting breast cancer. We will also do a teal one for child loss awareness. Lastly, there are electric scooters on campus. We have a policy on campus that we are not allowed to have these, but people do not know this. The staff higher up are trying to send a notification to not allow electric scooters. I am trying to prevent this because this is the future and is accommodating. I also think that this will cause tension between students and our university police. The police have worked hard to make students feel comfortable and to become an ally to students and I feel that this would take away from their efforts.

President Johnson opens the floor for questions.

Senator Hidalgo: Why is this a rule?

President Johnson: This is how it has always been there and the batteries could cause an issue.

Justice Christian (using senator Weir's time): I have a scooter because of how big the campus is and this is very helpful to me. The policy is to leave it outside but I do not like to do this because I like my things near me. If it is too hot or if it rains this would ruin the battery.

President Johnson: How long is the walk?

Justice Christian: My walk would be around 7-8 minutes vs. 3 minutes on the scooter

Jade (using Senator Weir's time): These can also assist with diseases and mobility issues rather than struggling. I think that these are accommodating.

President Johnson: Yes, it is important for us to remember that not all disabilities are physical.

Abbigail (using Senator Weir's time): When I worked at the call center, my walk was 20 minutes just to the student union. I thought about getting a scooter for efficiency. They say that this is what LionTraxx is for this purpose, but the hours did not always work out and LionTraxx is really full sometimes.

Senator Nasset: From the disability aspect, the scooters are much cheaper than the mobility aid that I have. If i couldn't have afforded this, I could have gotten a scooter to help with mobility. This could cause tension within the student body if some people are forced to be unable to use the mobility aids that they need.

Justice Christian (Senator Poche's Time): If we advocated for students on campus, this could eliminate the stress on LionTraxx drivers (of which there are only 3). I think that if we gained a profit from it, we could use the funds to be beneficial to students.

Senator Hidalgo: How open are admin to getting rid of this?

President Johnson : They told me to disagree if I see so from the beginning (being the liaison for the students). I stated in my email to Dr. Wainwright that this is a concern that students will have. Students have new technologies, which is why I am bringing these ideas up.

Rayden Riley (using Senator Savario's time): A scooter versus a bike could also be much safer as well. It is easier to stop a motor bike than a regular bike.

Senator Savario: What are the next steps if we do push against this?

President Johnson: Conversations similar to this one. I will bring the concerns to Dr. Wainwright and tell him why this should not be brought up to students.

B. SGA Chief Justice: Aaliyah Muhammad

Homecoming voting week is this week. Photo registration drive: We are partnering with project pull and are going to advertise. Free speech alley is going great. It is the week or two weeks after homecoming week. There will be a sign up genius sent out when it gets closer so that you can sign up to help.

C. SGA Advisor Dr. Taneshia Drake

We are still accepting homecoming teams. Swipe out hunger apps are going out live sometime this week. This is for people accepting as well as for people to give. This will be an ongoing initiative. Lion to lion will start this week due and is important for freshman retention. You are the voice of the student body. Make sure that you are intentional. The student investiture (president inauguration for the new president) We are wanting to plan a big event that thursday so be on the lookout for it. Chief Beckner is

going to come next week, Monday the 25th.

D. Internal Affairs Chair Bailey Milburn

We had two appointee bills last week.

FA23-07

Referred to the Senate favorably in its original form for the following reasons:

- i. Abigail wants to be more involved
- ii. Abigail has prior experience working with students and problem-solving
- iii. Abigail has a bright and welcoming personality

FA23-08

Referred to the Senate favorably in its original form for the following reasons:

- i. Adam has served as an Honors Ambassador which means he is a leader on campus. Being an Honors Ambassador speaks to Adam's character and abilities.
- ii. Adam has a desire to make positive change on campus.
- iii. The Senate has vacant spots from Adam's College, Science and Technology.

E. Appropriations Chair Levi Spiers (given by Senator Hidalgo)

FA23-06

Referred to the Senate favorably in its original form for the following reasons:

- I. This is something that SGA has done for many years.
- II. This removes barriers for students with financial troubles
- III. This is great advertising for SGA as it shows that we do give back to the students on campus.

F. Student Life Chair Lucien Nasset

Student life began talking about the people with periods initiative and getting it started up again. We cannot vote until we meet quorum, so please come. The meeting is at 4:45 tomorrow and I will send out a google meet.

G. Senate Chair Matt Matthews

No report.

VIII. Programs

A. Question of the day Victoria Verbrane

What are the three standing committees of the Senate? (appropriations, internal affairs, student life)

Senator Nasset earns an outreach point.

IX. Unfinished Business

A. FA23-06 A financial bill to supply the student body with scantrons and bluebooks

Applicant: Many students on campus need scantrons and bluebooks. We pass this bill every year in order to provide them to students. If someone faces a financial burden, it limits their education if they cannot afford this. It is also well known that this is something that SGA provides.

Senate chair opens floor for discussion.

Senate chair calls for vote on this bill.

12/12 Senators vote aye, bill is adopted.

B. FA23-07 A bill to appoint Abigail Wilson to the Student Government Association as a Senator for the College of Business

Applicant: I am Abigail Wilson but I go by Abby. I want to be more involved on campus, would like to make change on campus, and want to know more people on campus. If you'd have me I'd love to join.

Senate chair opens floor for discussion.

Senate chair calls for vote on this bill.

12/12 Senators vote aye, bill is adopted.

C. FA23-08 A bill to appoint Adam Sawyer to the Student Government Association as a Senator for the College of Science and Technology

Applicant: I am Adam Sawyer. I am an honors ambassador for campus, so I work with student on campus. I have experience working with students on campus. I love it and wanted to do more, and I figured that this was my opportunity.

Senate chair opens floor for discussion.

Senate chair calls for vote on this bill.

12/12 Senators vote aye, bill is adopted.

Vice President calls for objections to recessing the senate for new senators to be sworn in.

No objections, new senators will now be sworn in.

Meeting called back to order at 5:58 P.M.

D. FA23-09 A bill to appoint Ella Hunter to the Student Government Association as Senator at Large

Tabled.

X. New Business

A. FA23-10 A bill to appoint Rayden Riley to the Student Government Association as a Justice

Referred to Internal Affairs.

B. FA23-11 A bill to appoint Zoe Jackson to the Student Government Association as a Senator at Large

Referred to Internal Affairs.

C. FA23-12 A bill to appoint Jade Dimartino to the Student Government Association as a Senator for the College of Education

Referred to Internal Affairs.

D. FA23-13 A bill to appoint Auston O'Brien to the Student Government Association as Director of Financial Affairs

Referred to Internal Affairs.

E. FA23-14 A Finance Bill to Sponsor Stocking the Food Pantry

Referred to Appropriations.

XI. Announcements and Remarks

No announcements or remarks.

XII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:59 P.M.