

UNIVERSITY of  
**HOUSTON**  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

**Order of Business**  
**53<sup>rd</sup> Administration Agenda**  
**UC North Senate Chamber, 7:00 PM**  
**Wednesday June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**Clause 1:** Call to Order by the presiding officer

- I. Opening call of the roll

**Clause 2:** Recital of the Alma Mater

**Clause 3:** Reading and approval of previous meeting's minutes

- Adjusting vote count for the previous minutes
- 5/27/16 Minutes 18-0-0 confirmed
- 5/11/16 Moved to next meeting

**Clause 4:** Special Reports

- I. University Representatives wishing to address the Senate
- II. Students wishing to address the Senate
- III. Two-minute speeches by the Members of the Senate
  - a. Hunter – UHin5 for Architecture and Engineering program opportunities, reaching out to other professors to evaluate moving forward, will need assistance down the road
  - b. Laurel – How to integrate summer reading, Calhoun Lofts Conceal Carry Policy
  - c. Chris – What is the process of adjusting bylaw revisions
  - d. Hina – Adjusting way to improve process for creating clubs in Honors College, also working on a transportation/parking project for disseminating information to students
  - e. Cory– Survey with technology students is under review and after will talk with the Deans of technology about the information. Took a tour with the University to evaluate how to adjust our tours and improve them for students. Also looking at ways to involve SGA in CoogTV.
  - f. Hejal – Student Life will discuss later
  - g. Zeel – Students expressed how some professors and faculty who haven't received awareness of their accomplishments. Also tossed up a potential tradition to build the day before school starts.
  - h. Diego – Working with Cory on campus tours, wants to work with Athletics on how to get organizations involved, working with CFSL for Greek Housing concerns
  - i. Fahad – Working on WoW event for the Fall, Dena will cover in her report. Bauer is working on planning event for cross major collaboration, assisting Diego with tailgating for clubs. IA had first meeting to discuss opportunities there.
  - j. Leen – CAPS is having meeting Friday about changes that can potentially occur, working on Campus Carry project for Student Life to educate students on policies and procedures.

- k. Working with CLASS Coogs as well for career fairs. Met with professors and deans in order to address needs and hear about concerns.

## **Clause 5: Executive and Speaker Reports**

### **I. Report of the President**

- a. Returned from trip to the White House for conference with Student Body Presidents. Gave a lot of insight and notes for things we can address and research. Presented meal plan issues to the conference on two occasions. It's nice to see that UH is miles ahead of other SGA's in how we operate especially with our agendas and structure.
- b. Working on dining stuff attempting to find Auxiliary Services Director, still in the search process. Starting task force for meal plans and evaluating how we can make incremental movements to address issues over several years. Involved in accreditation committee, we are coming up on our 10 year cycle. The committee pushed undergraduate research last time, this time the committee is addressing the time frame and subject matter.
- c. Last meeting, legislation passed through the Senate, I vetoed it due to classifications of the type of bill it was listed. In general I support Classmates, what are the goals and what are the possibilities are key for me to understand where it is going. Main question around the merit of the bill, where will the funding be coming from since the bill requests SGA to support a request for funding. My stance is if we're going to advocate for a staff position, there needs to be clear and convincing data how the funding going there will benefit students better than maybe putting that funding elsewhere. Met with the Dean of CLASS today and it didn't seem likely funding would be there to support a new position.
- d. Communication Advisors all resigned, all 4. The reasons I've heard about why stem from high number of majors and high number of students to advisors ratio, essentially the concern for a lot of work and limited pay.
- e. Advising as a whole is an issue across the University, Director of Research looked in to data on the whole matter. Evaluating ways to take loads off advisors, like students assisting students for class planning.

### **II. Report of the Vice President**

### **III. Report of the Chief of Staff**

- a. Working on coming up with a professional renovation of the office to allow for painting and potential other revisions. Would like Senate feedback and ideas to determine what good plans would be so we can get it started at the beginning of July.
- b. As soon as IA chair is determined several bills for bylaw revisions and new text so as to move forward with revising the way we operate
- c. Will also be addressing the website and having massive updates and updated information so look forward to that, we will be adjusting other portions of bylaws to account for the inability to control website update timeframes
- d. Potentially drafting a UHin4 bill that mandates students enroll automatically in to the standard tuition rate and make it a process to get out of the program as well so that students are genuinely saving more money now and in the future

### **IV. Report of the Director of Public Relations**

- a. WoW event named as SGA-Fest, will be hosted Monday, August 29<sup>th</sup> 11a-2p in Plaza Stage between the Student Centers. Food is still currently being reviewed made or catered.
- b. Cougar Carnival needs volunteers, please sign up and come help. Check in @ 6, starts at 7p ends by 9p.

- c. If you have committee meetings let me know so I can publish them
- d. Juneteenth festival parade, Shane was asked to be put on a float
- e. Working on adding more suggestions boxes around campus and in the student centers
- f. Ordered samples of polos and will get with you all when they come in

V. Report of the Director of External Affairs

- a. Created proposal for community involvement event, looking at finding a location and date. If interested in the event and program, I will let you know when I have more details.
- b. Voter Rally to get students out to vote and get people engaged, along with all of that would love to create a non-partisan guide to candidates as well as facts about what are needed to vote
- c. Had a meeting about CAPS Task Force, looking at evaluating policies we're required to commit to and if we can lobby to address them
- d. Also scheduling meetings with UH System Presidents to talk about system wide issues and problems
- e. Looking in to affordable text book programs and addressing ways students can decrease their costs for textbooks
- f. Will start planning UH day at the capitol for the spring

VI. Report of the Attorney General

VII. Report of the Speaker

- a. Thanks to Andrew for all the leg work on the website along with all the data and information
- b. So proud to hear of everything you are all working on at the beginning of this summer, it's so good to see what all you are doing and not dying out like past administrations
- c. I was appointed Student Regent for the UH System, if you have questions about it please ask me
- d. Have collected reports back from each chair and vice-chair minutes, initiatives, and notes that I'll be bundling to put together a legislative agenda
- e. Thanks for the patience about all the revisions, Fall and Spring there will be deadlines, the summer Senate meeting was revised due to just the once a month meeting
- f. For your committees if you could please post 24 hours in advance of your meetings as required through the bylaws, social media would be preferred, required to be posted on our Facebook 24 hours prior to the meeting.
  - i. Once you have meetings scheduled, e-mail them to Dena and she'll have the posts all taken care of in advance
- g. Voter registration is in the plan for the Senate retreat where the clerk will work with us for two hours, it's in the books, but we're looking at having time frames.

VIII. Report of the Chief Justice

**Clause 6: Committee Reports**

I. Report of the Academic Affairs Committee

II. Report of the Administration and Finance Committee - Hina

- a. Had last meeting in May, small committee in the summer, last meeting will be at the end of June.
- b. One of the last projects we were talking about engaging students about transportation and parking opportunities addressing what the students have available to them

### III. Report of the Student Life Committee - Hejal

- a. Had a meeting last week, student came in and talked about concerns about the Psychiatry Clinic not just CAPS. She asked if we could assist with publicity, events, and removing stigma of mental health and assistance surrounding it.
- b. We have summer and fall projects split up. Summer projects are tackled by teams each with a projected head.
  - i. Campus Carry Information – Summer
  - ii. Weeks of Welcome (WoW) Event – Summer
  - iii. Improving Athletic Event Attendance – Summer
  - iv. Utilize Student Media for SGA Involvement – Fall
  - v. Increase Exposure of Greek Like – Fall
  - vi. Combining WOLFF Fest and Frontier Fiesta Ideas – Fall
  - vii. Redline App Revision and Update – Fall
  - viii. UH Tour Evaluations – Fall
  - ix. Vegetarian/Vegan Food Truck Options – Fall

### Clause 7: Unfinished Business

### Clause 8: New Business

#### I. Appointment of Fahad Rehan to the Chair of Internal Affairs – 6 – 10 – 0

- a. Fahad – I have decent amount of experience being Deputy Attorney General last year, was able to see flaws and problems that exist in our policies and procedures. I intend bringing new and adjustments to the bylaws and election code. Dual Vice-Chairs using Alex Gonzalez and Chris Sanderson. Would like to see revisions to the way appointments to committees are made. Would like to really work on transparency for SGA and the students. Questions?
  - i. Chris – What are your goals for IA, short and long term?
    1. I have other focuses, but my biggest goal is to really fix the bylaws and election code since there are a lot of issues and contradictions. There is a delicate process to go about due to individuals involved. Under Chris there would be 4-5 senators working on governing document changes. Will be a very inclusive process and environment
  - ii. David – Talking about changes to the bylaws and election code, what is your biggest objective?
    1. Want to bring about change to recent bylaw changes where judicial branch is de-facto appointed to seats on committees that students could be have and should have an opportunity. Most passionate about reversing last administration's last bylaw. Also want to address election code sanctioning to be straight forward.
  - iii. David – You mentioned working on Weeks of Welcome, what is your work there and how much time will you be committing to that outside of IA?
    1. As far as WoW event goes 10-20 hours put in, starts at the beginning of the year, majority of my time won't be involved in other projects, but I will be involved as I don't believe it will take away from being Chair of a committee.
  - iv. David – Were there any other committees you were interested in being Chair for prior to IA?
    1. No IA was always my number, love getting in to the details and specifics. Interested in Admin and Finance as well, but IA is my

number one committee. Student Life allows me to address student needs and desires.

- v. Shannon – Were you the only one running for the Chair?
  - 1. I wouldn't know I'm appointed by the Speaker.
- b. Motion for moderated caucus with 3 minutes
  - i. Shannon – My perspective is as a new senator, not having any training, I don't feel like I would be able to run a committee being so new.
  - ii. Leen – Experience doesn't dictate if someone is knowledgeable and willing to work hard, they should be able to do it and go for it. The WoW event also is on multiple people's shoulders, if he says he can manage time, I believe it.
  - iii. David – I think Fahad shows passion and interest, but my concern is if he is dealing with the code he'd be more knowledgeable. I would prefer somebody with a broader view of the bylaws as the chair, I think he'd be a great vice-chair. Hesitant to see him as a chair since he's a sophomore and has later opportunities.
- c. Josh – Lucien was an original appointment, his time frame and commitment schedule was difficult to work with. The reason I think he is a good candidate is that you have to be good at managing and delegating can really work. It's not so much experience as it is potential for leadership. I think his structure for IA with two vice-chairs is really a great idea. There are tons of experienced senators on the committee that can assist if need be
  - i. David – That's my point it's about training and using the experienced senators that are better qualified chair.

## II. Presidential Appointment of Reda Majidi to Assistant Director of External Affairs – 17 – 0 – 0

- a. Reda – Humbled to be here today, I'm trying to be the Assistant Director of External Affairs, been doing a 10 years of community work and I'd like to carry that over. I have an internship with a congressman and I think by having the experience I've had in the past long with the internship provides me a great opportunity.
  - i. David – What are examples of community service?
    - 1. Part of organizations that did community clean ups with non-profits and citizens cleaning homes and distributing food. Was able to help Kentucky during a disaster relief period rebuilding homes and helping citizens.
  - ii. Will – What is your level?
    - 1. Junior
  - iii. Will – What groups are you a part of that are non-political?
    - 1. United Muslim Relief and Muslim Student Association
  - iv. Laurel – Projects you want to do?
    - 1. Community outreach program and UH Day at the Capitol are the two I'm most interested in
  - v. Julien – What have you learned through your experiences?
    - 1. Everyone learns and grows differently and everyone starts and should be treated equally.
  - vi. Sean – What gave you the drive to do this?
    - 1. Mom forced me to do it first time and then I realized I loved it and enjoyed it.
  - vii. Zeel – Delaney is this addition to Shawn?
    - 1. Yes
  - viii. Leen – What can you provide to supplement SGA as a whole?



1. The two huge projects she's working on and I'd be allocated to go to meetings and events where Delaney she may not be able to do. I'm a helping hand.
  - ix. David – What's your major?
    1. Political Science
  - x. Shannon – Ample organization to assist elsewhere, why SGA?
    1. I like working within politics and government and I just want to be a part of an organization that has a large impact on students
  - xi. Will – What are some of the interfaith events you've participated in?
    1. I haven't participated, but I've attended several.
- III. SGAR-53001: CLASSmates Expansion Resolution – Revised 15 – 0 – 0
- a. Leen – Little discrepancy with that Classmates is, so we wanted to revise the bill to express what all the Classmates program means and what it truly is. A couple corrections occurred for text issues and also revising the type of bill and moving it to a resolution. The Dean was happy to see the drive by SGA for CLASS.
  - b. Winni – The program was created to bring attention to freshman and assist with social settings, there is a lot of a data provided for low retention and graduation rates, so this program was developed to increase those. Dean acknowledged lack of significant data as it isn't entirely collected and managed exhaustively. Survey answers from students showed a desire to expand the program to allow for further work. This bill is to reflect what the students have asked. Questions?
    - i. Shannon – I don't understand the program, what is it?
      1. Students take classes that are paired with professors and students to build relationships and grow through freshman development
    - ii. Hunter – Because funding is limited, would it make sense to take more time to really redevelop a proposal not taking in finances?
      1. Honestly the dean wants to push for faculty not staff directly, and so I'm not sure we can get the funding, but we can push. The focus of the bill is expanding the program, not necessarily the funding. So we don't see the wording creating an issue there.
    - iii. Chris – Statistics were incorrect?
      1. The data isn't incredibly accuracy on CLASS retention rates and then remove Classmates isn't an opportunity, we can see that Classmates is going up, but not how that impacts CLASS.
    - iv. Laurel – Should there be textual revisions regarding the classes?
      1. The goal is to be inclusive of AP students, we don't have a structure on what classes
    - v. Will – Is it a similar program as like in Bauer?
      1. No it's a program that combines two classes so you can build better and healthier relationships
    - vi. David – Did an associate dean interaction occurred? UH tracks I's given in class, you should double check it.
      1. She's in Paris so we couldn't. I have the data you can take a look at currently.
    - vii. Sean – Dean brought up majors, would the point of this bill would be beneficial to all majors?
      1. We believe the program becomes harder to control when you try and build major based programs to drive. It's easier to keep it put together and keep students interested together. Departmentally the Dean brought up good ideas, but maybe not for Classmates.

- viii. Laurel – A lot of CLASS students are Honor's Students, is there a variation for them?
  - 1. Honors wouldn't necessarily be inclusive for them due to their requirements for the program and degree schedule.
- ix. Shannon – Couldn't you take the class and request honors credit?
  - 1. No, the only way to make it an honors class is if an honors class is full.
- x. Hunter – Previous version was vetoed for taking it to Khator, would it pass your desk today in its current form?
  - 1. I have thoughts, ultimately I have things I want to bring up and even if I were to veto it the Senate can override my veto. I think I have legitimate concerns, I don't want to say yes or no. The very last line is one of my biggest concerns.
- xi. Josh – Is there any pressing need to get this pushed now as opposed to tabling it to July?
  - 1. The college is already looking in to expanding it, the bill was to show support for the expansion
- c. Moderated Caucus 5 minutes
  - i. Chris – It's a good resolution, I think they can choose to use it or not, that's their call. I think having the staff member there is really beneficial to the department and the needs of the students. Since the position would be active in more than just one position.
  - ii. Shannon – I would just like to say, if it is just a resolution and a suggestion, why not suggest it, especially if this is what the students want. That's what we're here to do.
  - iii. David – I agree Shannon's concept my only hesitation point is that if you ask for too much you lose out on the quality content found elsewhere in the bill. Fear of a poisoned pill.
  - iv. Leen – Like Winni mentioned, a lot of things stated on this bill, we're reiterating what the college has already asked for and are intending on evaluating expanding on. The only topic of real discussion is a new staff or faculty member to assistance. The dean and director are happy to see this be brought to their attention.
  - v. Andrew – I believe that we need to keep in mind this is a resolution and we're here for the students. I think we should be advocating for their desires and needs and if we can't ask the administration for things due to fear of failure then we truly can't advocate. Our goal is to advocate, we should be asking for assistance and help for students especially if it's desired by the students. We're here for the students and this resolution is simply a document supporting an opportunity that CLASS has to expand on a great program for the students.
  - vi. Shane – I don't want to ask for the position because I'm not convinced it should receive it. The data does not show that it accomplishes what it says it does. There is no data to show that retention rates have gone up in CLASS. There is no proof to say it does what it says it does. I don't believe the proof is there to ask them where to spend the money. The surveys can be misleading, students in the program may want it, but it may not be beneficial to students with not in the program. I don't disagree with the program, I just don't think the opportunity is there for a staff member. Those are my concerns and I'm not even sure the position

should be allocated and I don't think we can prove it does what it says it does.

1. David – I think you voice a good opinion, has anyone reached out to hold off bringing the bill to CLASS until we receive data on it?
    - a. Shane – I would probably hold up on the bill to get information from data in order from the University
  2. Hunter – Would it be possible to get the support from you if we held on to the bill?
    - a. I'd be happy to evaluate it and probably sign it without the one clause. I hesitate telling the Dean where to spend his money.
  3. Fahad – Would softening the resolution language about a staff position help get to be more agreeable on the matter?
    - a. I believe it could be discussed, but I'm concerned if that is the best place to put a position assuming funding is even there found in CLASS.
- vii. Authors – Statistics I knew weren't great, but we're not arguing about all those statistics, the Dean is working on getting us the information needed for Classmates. The Dean today, even if there was 0% impact on retention rates, if students desire it then we'd certainly evaluate it. It's not just about retention rates, it's about everything else programs provide students and students can benefit from. Director of Academic Affairs agrees they need help and I don't believe there isn't any harm in asking for another position. The Dean is even taking this program and trying to emulate this elsewhere in the college investing further time and resources.
- d. Motion to address final resolution clause and tabling that resolution at our next meeting 15 – 0 – 0

#### IV. Moderated Caucus to Discuss Summer Senate Progress

#### Clause 9: Closing Remarks

- i. Comments and announcements of the officers
  - a. Shane – Want to thank the hard work of Leen and Winni on this resolution
- ii. Open Forum
  - a. Winni – Please get me your Google Calendar as exec is already done, that way we can setup booking for students and others to visit with not just executive, but also the senators. Really allows us to get student input and hit the ground running.
  - b. Leen – If anyone knows of any businesses offering internships or opportunities for CLASS degrees please let me know.
  - c. Shannon – I know beforehand senators were provided handbooks
    - i. Typically occurs at our retreat
  - d. Chris – I have surgery tomorrow and will be on bed rest for two weeks working on bylaws
  - e. Delaney – If you're looking about getting involved with the political conventions get with me so I can try and help you so you can be engaged

#### III. Closing call of the roll

#### Clause 10: Adjournment



President	Shane Smith	X	X
Vice-President	Rohini Sethi		
Chief of Staff	Andrew Bahlmann	X	X
Deputy Chief of Staff	Winni Zhang	X	X
Director of Public Relations	Dena Moghtader	X	X
Director of External Affairs	Delaney Catlettstout	X	X
Director of Research	Dean Suchy		
Senior Advisor to the President	Robert Comer		
Special Advisor	Edwin Moscarro		
Advisor to Vice-President	Joana Nunes		
Attorney General			
Director of Finance			
Speaker of the Senate	Joshua Freed	X	X
Undergraduate At-Large	Paul O'Brien		
	Diego Munoz	X	X
	Anthony Salcido	X	
	Kenneth Nguyen		
Graduate At-Large	Lucien Nana Yobo		
	Will Simpson	X	X
Architecture	Hunter Bodiford	X	X
Bauer	Alejandro Dolores		
	Chris Gervasio		
	Fahad Rehan	X	X
	Omar Jamal		
Education	Zeel Vora	X	X
	Ayo Shofoluwe		
Engineering	Laurel Rawley	X	X
	David Gratvol	X	X
	Farah Azari		
HRM	Adrian Hernandez		
CLASS	Leen Baharat	X	X
	Alex Gonzalez	X	X
	Tala Arshouk		
	Jackson Crawford		
	Kye Cockerham		
	Hejal Soni	X	X
	Efe Ajayi		
	Sean Velasquez	X	X
NSM	Kayla Fischer		
	Cindy Zarate		
	Kim-Briana Lorine		

	Rizwaan Siddiqui		
Technology	Cory Rodriguez	X	X
	Chris Sanderson	X	X
	Rishabh Jain		
	Julian Byrd	X	
Pharmacy	Evan Cleaver	X	X
Honors	Hina Uddin	X	
Law	Shannon Terry	X	X
Nursing	VACANT		
Optometry	VACANT		
Social Work	VACANT		