

3rd Meeting of the 45th Administration

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

Minutes:

1) Opening Call of Roll:

- a) Present: Sam, Jonas, Kayley, Stephen Q, Salman, Sean, Mallory, Stephen K, Jackie, Frank, Van, Minkantesh, Zuhair, Franceska, Jamie, Lyle, Alex, Kelly, Josephine, Mariam, Jeremy, Jeffrey

2) Amendment to the Agenda:

- a) Special Report: Topic: Financial Aid Advisory Committee- set up a informational sessions on FAFSA, general financial aid business, week of April 28th, time slots for people to attend sessions, try to cover "financial aid myths busted," people soft-improvements, dates and times are not set

3) Students wishing to address the Senate:

- a) Joshua- with National Society of Black Engineers- discussed annual event, April 26,2008- go out to community and hand out fliers with details about colleges, 8am- 2pm " A Walk for Education," (NSBE)
- b) Amanda Wong- offered the opportunity to become the new Director of Finance-discussed her numerous endeavors, personal information- Van=questioned time commitment- Amanda believes she can commit time, Sean= questioned experience, Salman- questioned experience as well
- c) Quione Cook- Being appointed to College of Education Seat 2, discussed proposed plans with regard to changes to COE, Van= time commitment; Quione hopes to join the student life committee
- d) Amod Ahmad- being appointed for At-Large Seat 2, discussed qualities that he can bring to the position, wishes to address issues with Aramark (way food is handled), hopes to establish a committee that immediately presents surveys to the student body (quick committee), hopes to create green projects (recycling options)

4) Two minute speeches by the members:

- a) Jamie Xu- supporting the Presidents Emergency Relief Plan for AIDS, bill will allocate 50 billion dollars to AIDS research (Africa, Central Asia, ect)

5) Report of the President-Sam

- a) yields time to Marcela- speaks of/reminds senate of Campus Leaders Reception on April 22, 2008
- b) Sam speaks of tours him and Jonas went on(Student Unions)- interesting time, began in Houston then Indiana, San Diego State University- Students run student union; UC San Diego, Texas Tech; discussed expansion of the University of Houston's student union

- c) Three appointments- Director of Finance-Amanda (discussed qualities Amanda possesses that make her a viable candidate), Education Seat 2 (Quione- discussed dimensions he may bring to the table), and At-Large Seat 2 (replacing Aleah- Amod, also discusses why Amod would be a great asset to the Senate)
- d) Alex's legislations-parking issues, email notification to inform students of tickets issued-gives opportunity to appeal
- e) Announced- special commission to study housing- is in charge of studying and highlighting the concerns and issues of students living on campus (Alex- Chair; members- Jamie, Francesca, Jeremy, ect.)
- f) Sam and Jonas will be meeting with individuals from business services to start moving forward to improve the dining experience
- g) Discussed two pieces of legislation- course guidelines, and "W" policy
- h) Commended all who have been working on legislation (Sean, Kelly, Alex, ect.)

6) Report of the Vice President- Jonas

- a) Trip to Indiana, San Diego, and Texas- Indiana= empowerment of the student voice, Food services- mandatory meal plan only for freshman year; San Diego= student voice-had a voice, wished they had more, dealt with financial aspects; Texas Tech= opened in 2003, expanded on original facilities, student voice is very effective, food service-have hospitality service run by the university, meal plans are required for first year, have commuter meal plans, have a theater, leisure areas, smaller than Indiana, have their own senate chambers; Hours :UC's are not open during the hours that the University of Houston is. All had grills, salad bars, Chinese and Mexican food
- b) Resolution for email notification- Tech's SGA mentioned the emails were very effective
- c) Committees- contact Jonas if you are still interested in being on a University Committee

7) Report of the Director of Public Relations-Kaley

- a) Town Halls- ideally should host a townhall at least once a month, wait for the fall, participate in activities over the summer (recommended)

8) Report of the Speaker-Stephen

- a) Reminder that next meeting is next Wednesday, plan accordingly (last meeting before the summer session begins)
- b) Summer Senate- meet every other week, time that legislation can be passed, attendance is required, absences in summer senate do not count toward absences in regular session; email Stephen if interested; runs from June 2, 2008;

9) Report of Standing Committees:

- a) Internal Affairs: Alex- encourages networking and getting the student body more interested in SGA

10) Special Orders:

- a) No more questions asked of candidates, appointments called to question
- b) Amanda Wong- appointed
- c) Quione Cook- appointed
- d) Amod Ahmad- appointed

11) Legislation:

- a) UB45003- Appeal Process of Student Traffic Court; Amend sections 7 and 9
- b) SGAR45004- email notification system for traffic citations; acquire software to support emailing students when their vehicle is issued a parking citation;

12) Unfinished business and general orders:

- a) SGAB45002- was tabled last meeting; called to question- **PASSED**

13) New legislation bypassed:

- a) Debate on UB45003- Alex= mentions time constraint, issues with five class days given for submission of appeal ; **TABLED** to next meeting (April 23, 2008)
- b) Debate on SGAR45004- supported by most, **PASSED**

14) Closing call of roll:

PRESENT: Sam, Jonas, Kayley, Amanda, Jeremy, Salman, Jeffrey, Mariam, Alex, Kelly, Sean, Mallory, Stephen K, Jackie, Frank, Lyle, Van, Manny, Zuhair, Franceska, Jamie, Josephine, Quione, Amod

15) Closing comments:

- a) supporting bills- when asking for support, send out final pieces of legislation a few days in advance
- b) Point of information: Awards Ceremony (6:30pm in the Houston room) contact Cassandra with any questions
- c) Sam- suggests re-establishing Texas Students Association, encourages senators to read constitution, student handbook, other resources