



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION SENATE JOURNAL

TWENTY-SIXTH SENATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

First Meeting of the Spring Senate
January 29, 1990
Regents Room, University Center
7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order by the Presiding Officer:

The meeting was called to order by the Speaker of the Senate, Michael Danke, at 7:00 P.M.

2. Call of the Roll by the Secretary:

The following Senators were present: Barrus, Danke, Karim, Marino, Miklos, Owens (HFA), Parker, Saeed, Sharma, Spacek, and Zarka

The following Senators were late: Browne, Dockery, Grimm, Harper, Hasselbrink, and Wuthrich,

The following Senators were excused:

The following Senators were absent: Patel, Ware, Wilson, and Urban

The following Executive Cabinet members were present: President Belicove, Vice President Butt, and Director of Public Relations Mark Burge

The following University Officials were present: William Munson

3. Reading and approval of the Senate Journal from the Previous Meeting:

The Senate Journal was approved as corrected by the members.

4. Report of the President:

President Belicove welcomed everyone and informed the Senate of his recent trip to the Soviet Union. He explained that he was selected as one of fifty delegates by the American Association of University Students. He explained that the delegates represented the American College Student Leaders in a public forum in Lithuania, Moscow, and Leningrad. He noted that the Soviet Student Leaders seemed more concerned with world wide affairs rather than internal activities. President Belicove added that all student leaders were at the Graduate level in school. Over all, the President felt the trip was very interesting as well as enjoyable.

February 27, 1990 - March 4, 1990 is the American Association of University Students' National Conference. The event will take place at American University in Washington, D.C. President Belicove informed the Senate that Senator Charles Hasselbrink had been appointed and will attend the Conference. In addition, President Belicove announced that anyone interested in the Conference please meet and talk with him after the Senate meeting.

President informed the Senate of the Committee called Phase Two Housing. The committee primarily deals with Campus Housing and how it relates to University property. The function of the Phase two committee is Greek Row Housing.

A petition in regards to the early parole of 28 year old Coral Eugene Watts was also introduced to the Senate. Watts was charged with the killing of Elena Semander, a UH student, in 1982. President Belicove informed the Senate that the Students' Association had endorsed the petition. Furthermore, the President passed out and urged all Senators and visitors to sign the petition.

President Belicove informed the Senate that a team from the University of Houston went to Washington D.C. to make an official presentation to President Bush pertaining to the Bush Library on the UH campus. The visit was extremely successful. President Belicove also told the Senate of the recent student delegate

000090



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION SENATE JOURNAL

that was sent to Washington in regards to the Library. In addition, President Belicove called that Senate's attention to the current funding of the Library system at the University of Houston.

President Belicove announced a Special Session, for February 5, 1990 at 7:00 p.m. Further debate pertaining to the Health Center Task Force Report would be given at that time. President Belicove announced that the Election Budget would also be discussed at the Special Session.

The President asked the Internal Affairs Committee to hold a meeting and discuss the appointments currently in Committee.

5. *Report of the Vice President:* None

6. *Report of the Speaker:*

Speaker Danke spoke on several issues. 1) Informed the Senate of the current appointments in committee. 2) Announced that his office hours for the Spring Semester will be posted on the Senate Office door. 3) Asked the Committee Chairs to designate their office hours. In addition, Speaker Danke passed around a committee sheet for all Senators to sign. 4) Updated the Senate on the Senate Journal Revamp Project. He announced that legislation in regards to the purchase of a binding machine would be introduced later in the meeting. Speaker Danke added that there were 50 journals that would eventually need binding. He had researched the current prices of the machines, which would cost \$226-\$286. 5) Speaker Danke informed the Senate of 13 pieces of legislation from the 25th Senate Journal. The legislation was passed in the previous Senate; however, it was not signed. Therefore, Speaker Danke announced that the legislation would be introduced into the Senate.

Agenda Item of the Week: Advice and Consent

Speaker Danke stated that the Senate had lost their right to advice and consent. He stated that in the past, the Students' Association Senate had a high appointment rate of over 99%. He said that in and of itself, this approval rate was not bad, but that the Executive branch had come to rely on it. He cited several examples of the long judicial process that some appointments had to suffer and congratulated the Senate on its ability to decrease the appointment's time in committee from months to weeks. He cited as particularly disturbing the appointment of officers who were being paid before they were actually confirmed by the Senate. He asked the Senators to support a bill to be written by chairs Browne and Miklos that would speed up the appointment process further.

7. *Special Reports:* None

8. *One Minute Speeches by the Members.*

Senator Saeed - Expressed grievance with the Office of the Speaker. He explained that he was unable to obtain a phone number of a fellow Senator from Speaker Danke. He felt that the policy was absurd and was informed that the Students' Association phone lines were insecure.

Senator Miklos - Reminded the Senators that they are representatives of their Colleges and the entire student body and legislation should be judged according to this fact.

Executive Branch - Informed the Speaker that Senator Dockery had been sworn in. The Speaker asked that this be recorded in the Senate Journal, and recognized Senator Dockery.

Senator Dockery - Introduced himself and confirmed that he was approved on December 5, 1989. He also stated that he was denied a list of phone numbers.

Speaker Danke - Stated that the policy the two senators fell victim to was instituted after an unfortunate incident regarding Senator Ware after he won the Heisman Trophy. He stated that he happily mailed Senator Saeed a copy of the Senate Roster, and asked the Senate if they wished the policy be changed. There was no motion.

9. *Report of Standing Committees:*

1. Academic Affairs - Yahya Saeed, Chair - No quorum was met. However, the committee did informally recommend that Patrick Carruth, Graduate and Prof. Studies Committee was suitable for the position.
2. Internal Affairs - Chris Browne, Chair - Reported out favorably on Richard Corbello, Senator for the College of Technology. Announced that both Vickie Wahl, Traffic Court and Darlene Hurt Assistant to the President and Vice President would be discussed in the Special Session next Monday. In addition, Chair Browne announced that a constitutional amendment would be

000091



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION SENATE JOURNAL

introduced at the Special Session. The amendment would pertain to reducing the "At- Large" Senator positions from eight to four.

3. Student Life - Rekha Sharma, Chair - The committee was unable to meet quorum. Senator Sharma informally recommended Matthew Veach to the Health Center Policy Board.
4. University Administration and Finance - Robert Miklos, Chair - Vice Chair Harper reported that the committee met on January 26, 1990 and achieved quorum. The committee reported out favorably on the following pieces of legislation SR26012: A SENATE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE TAX-EXEMPT STATUS OF ON-CAMPUS OUTLETS and UB26019: A UNIVERSITY BILL PROVIDING FOR THE FINANCIAL AID DEPARTMENT TO ISSUE 60 DAY HOLDS ON REGISTRATION DETERMINATIONS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SEMESTER. The committee disapproved UB26017: A UNIVERSITY POLICY ON CASHING PAYROLL CHECKS ON CAMPUS. Vice Chair Harper announced the new spring semester meeting times on Mondays at 6:00p.m.

10. Report of the Select Committee: None

11. Special Reports:

Speaker Danke ruled SB26007: A SENATE BILL ESTABLISHING A BUDGET FOR THE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION ELECTIONS out of order because the legislation was not submitted according to the Constitution and Bylaws. The legislation was replaced by SB26018: A SENATE BILL ESTABLISHING A BUDGET FOR THE SPRING 1990 STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION ELECTIONS. As Speaker in Favor, President Belicove explained to the Senate the legislation and added that Micro Computing Center Tabulation reduced their fees from \$650.00 to \$400.00. He added that the poll workers would be paid \$3.50 instead of \$4.00 in the previous referendum. He commended both the Election Commissioner and the Election Assistants on their hard work. In General Debate, Senator Browne felt the hourly wage of \$3.50 was a bit low. President Belicove commented that the students that would be manning the polls would not be working off campus. In addition, he added that the Students' Association might not attract the same poll workers because of the lower wages. Senator Karim felt the hourly wages were reasonable because hard work was not involved. Senator Miklos suggested that the Poll workers should be volunteers, not paid. After no further discussion, a vote was taken on SB26007: A SENATE BILL ESTABLISHING A BUDGET FOR THE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION ELECTIONS. With one abstention in the vote, the Bill passed.

12. Unfinished Business and General Orders:

a. Presidential Nominations and Appointments

Senator Browne moved to accept the following committee appointments:

Richard Corbello, Senator, College of Technology

Patrick Carruth, Graduate and Professional Studies

Matthew Veach, Health Center Policy Board

After no objections, a direct vote was taken and the appointments were approved unanimously. At this time, Richard Corbello, Senator of Technology was sworn in by President Belicove.

b. Legislation

Senator Hasselbrink motioned to bypass and consider UB26020: A UNIVERSITY BILL REVISING THE STUDENT PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE. After no discussion, a direct vote was taken to bypass and the vote passed unanimously. Senator Sharma motioned to consider the University Bill. The legislation was seconded by Senator Browne. As Speaker in Favor, Senator Miklos explained the revisions of the Student Publications Committee to the Senate. As he explained the final proposal, Senator Miklos handed out a supplement outlining the changes (Appendix A). Senator Miklos shared with the Senate concerns of the committee. Many SPC members felt that if the SPC shifted from members appointed by the Students' Association to members elected by the student body, the representation would be incompetent to elect the editor of the *Daily Cougar* and the editor of the *Houstonian*. The SPC members also felt the revisions were an attempt by SA to gain control over the Student Publication Committee. In a point of information, Speaker Pro Tempore Marino asked Senator Miklos if the SPC would be elected in the general elections in the Spring. Senator Miklos answered that the members would be on the ballot in the Spring elections. In General Debate, Senator Grimm proposed to add a friendly amendment inserting the word "non partisan" after the number "5" and before "students" in the Enacted clause. Speaker Pro Tempore felt that the SPC should have a run-off vote instead of a plurality vote. Senator Barrus added a friendly amendment to change "\$125, 00.00" to \$120,00.00 and the word "semester" to academic year in the first whereas. With the consent of the authors, Senator Miklos also added a friendly amendment which reads as follows: "The Vice



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION SENATE JOURNAL

President of Student Affairs and his or her representatives would stand as a ex-official, non-voting member." ... "And two other business or professional members to be appointed by the Student Publications Committee." Senator Saeed told the Senate he was in favor of the University Bill. However, he voiced several fears 1) Non partisan voting. He felt it was inevitable that the candidate would be endorsed by the party that was running the election. 2) Felt that the Twenty-Sixth Senate's solution to any problem was a direct election. As a point of information, Senator Harper asked why the *Daily Cougar* could not elect the professional media advisors instead of the Student Publications Committee. He felt the *Daily Cougar* engaged in more direct contact than that of the SPC. Senator Miklos explained that the system would allow Dick Cigler to make recommendations on who he had contacted from the outside media. Other members would make recommendations. With this intact, more members would be involved in the final decision of selecting the professional media advisors. Senator Karim called the previous question. Three seconds were not seen, so discussion continued. Speaker Pro Tempore motioned to amend a word "plurality" to "majority" in the ENACTED clause: ..."Elected at-large by a majority vote in the Students' Association election held in the Spring Semester." The motion was seconded by Senator Saeed. As Speaker in Favor of the amendment, Senator Grimm explained if the vote were majority he felt the vote would be narrowed at least down to one or two groups. This would allow the students to pick and choose the appropriate students to represent the SPC. The Amendment passed. After further comments, Senator Miklos moved the Previous question. The motion passed, the question was put, and UB 26020 passed by a 15-2 margin.

Senator Miklos moved to consider UB 26019 A UNIVERSITY BILL PROVIDING FOR THE FINANCIAL AID DEPARTMENT TO ISSUE 60 DAY HOLDS ON ENROLLMENT DETERMINATIONS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SEMESTER. After seconding, President Belicove spoke as the Speaker in favor. He pointed out the luckless case of students who priority registered for classes, only to be caught in a Catch 22. They either had to find an emergency loan and pay interest on it or be dropped from their classes. This situation, he said, was to be corrected by the bill. In general debate, Senator Spacek inquired about why the bill should not apply to scholarships. Senator Miklos replied that many students receive those directly and would be affected. The vote was taken and the bill passed unanimously.

Senator Miklos then moved to consider UB 26017 UNIVERSITY POLICY ON CASHING PAYROLL CHECKS ON CAMPUS. After being duly seconded, there was no debate. The motion failed by a vote of 0-11 with 1 abstaining vote.

13. *New Business and Reconsideration of Presidential Vetoes:*

The following people were introduced as appointments and referred to the following committees:

Jeffrey Heany	Senator, HRM	Internal Affairs
Jan Burns	Senator, Education 1	Internal Affairs
Veena Sardana	Senator, At Large No. 8	Internal Affairs
Paul Hogleund	Senator, HFA 1	Internal Affairs
Michael Berry	Assistant to the Directors	Internal Affairs
Kathryn Sherman	SSFPAC	Internal Affairs
Joe Lawson	Activities Funding Board	Student Life
Kalpana Bhakta	Student Publications Committee	Student Life

14. *Introduction and First Reading of New Legislation:*

Senator Zarka moved to bypass and consider Senate Resolution 26017: A SENATE RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON'S INVITATION TO INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LEADERS TO HEAR PAUL CHU SPEAK DURING THE WORLD ECONOMIC SUMMIT. The resolution was seconded by Senator Miklos. As Speaker in favor, Senator Saeed informed the Senate that we should support our invitation to have world leaders listen to the presentation by Paul Chu. Belicove complimented the Senators on their sensitivity to world issues and said that he would help. A vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

Senator Browne reported at length on the changes that his committee made to the election code, including substantial renumbering, and asked that the Senators examine it. Speaker Danke pointed out that the bill would have to be heard that night or suffer an amendment before it was introduced. Senator Browne moved to consider SB 26019 An act to Adopt Title 7. . . The motion was seconded by Harper. Senator Miklos by



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION SENATE JOURNAL

general consensus changed part of 7.11 from "Students' Association office" to "Election Commissioner's Office". Vice President Butt asked about the role of the Attorney General. It was explained that the SA had not budgeted for one this year. A vote was taken and the motion passed with 15 in favor and one abstaining.

Senator Miklos introduced UB 26026 A UNIVERSITY BILL ADOPTING A POLICY OF PURCHASING PREFERENCE FOR RECYCLED PRODUCTS BY THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON.-Student Life.

Senator Miklos introduced UB 26027 UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BILL--University Administration and Finance

15. Comments and Announcements:

Senator Sharma- reported that her committee needed more members to be able to meet.

Senator Browne - announced a committee meeting for Thursday at 2:30.

Vice President Butt announced that training sessions would be held for the Literacy Corps. Those interested should contact Bruce. SADD is having a bake sale at PGH on February 14th.

President Belicove announced a special meeting for the next Monday night at 7 pm with the room to be announced. Agenda Items would include: All appointments in committee, a constitutional amendment, any necessary election code amendments, and an in depth discussion of the Health Center Task Force Report. He talked about the petition drive for the Semander family. The family had a daughter that went to the University of Houston and was murdered off campus. Although this happened in the early 1980's, her killer was already up for parole. The petition drive was designed to keep him in jail. President Belicove also welcomed the new Senators and invited all Senators who had not written legislation to do so.

16. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by general consent at 9:17 p.m.