





# STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION SENATE JOURNAL

Lori LeBlanc  
John Wittengberg  
Kimberly Butz  
Connie Vietz  
Ann Pike  
Reed Paseur  
Jonelyn Watkins  
Thomas Hicks  
Rekha Sharma  
Mark Burge  
Larry Marino  
Hope Johnson  
Stephanie Small  
Kalpana Bhakta  
Michele Spacek

Robert Miklos  
David Clarkson  
Carol Chaney  
Mary Corso  
Kristin Wiseneast  
Karl Barrus  
Donna Urban  
Judy Bell  
Chrisina Amorusa  
Doris Ayyubi  
Binu Ninan  
Berndie Meinen  
Punita Handa  
Michael Danke  
Adrienne Dyess

President Belicove reminded the Senate that The University Houston Students Association of is hosting the Texas State Student Association Convention October 19-22, 1989. The Conference is the largest state wide Association in the nation. The Executive branch Students' Association will need a welcoming session, delegates, and escorts for the weekend event.

He commended the Student Program Board on their fine job organizing the G. Gordon Liddy event. President Belicove added that the Mr. Liddy's speech was covered well by the *Daily Cougar*. He also stated that the University of Houston needs more quality speakers in the future.

President Belicove announced the upcoming American Association of University Students Conference on November 9-12, 1989 at Southern Methodist University. He asked those interested to speak with him.

On a final note, President Belicove informed the Senate of the recent published article in the *National On Campus Report* regarding the bid in the George Bush Library. From the article, it was clearly evident that the University of Houston is pushing for the library. In addition, he commented that this article was a sign of our work, and it was evident that everything we do promotes Student Government on campus.

Senator Potter asked President Belicove about the improvements on the South Campus Recreation Project. He responded that Donald Green was "Dancing around the issue." No action has been taken to restore the eyesore located between the towers and the Quad residence areas.

## 5. Report of the Vice President:

Vice President Butt congratulated the football team on their great performance last weekend. He then reminded the Senate of the upcoming football game against Southern Methodist University. This notable game is the Homecoming game for the University of Houston. For this reason, he mentioned to the Senate that later in the evening he would be proposing a University Bill pertaining to the motto, "End Apathy Week." After no objections, Vice President Butt yielded the floor to Mark Burge, Co-Director of Public Relations. Mark explained to the Senate that this piece of legislation was a Resolution encouraging all to make an effort to end apathy on the University of Houston campus. He urged the Students Association to get actively involved and to show excitement for the University.



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## 6. *Report of the Speaker:*

Speaker Danke spoke on several issues. 1) He voiced his enthusiasm for "End Apathy Week" by telling the Senate he would take an active part in the event. Speaker Danke added that this spirit should not pertain to just the football team, but also the volleyball team and other sports on campus. 2) Reminded Senators to sign up to "Meet with the Speaker." 3) Informed the Senate that Senator Hicks has been working with the College of Technology in acquiring nameplates for all Senators for thirty dollars. This piece of Legislation would be presented to the Senate later in the meeting. 4) He has spoke with Rudy Davalos, Director of the Athletic Department. He has agreed to attend the Senate meeting on October 23, 1989 and speak under Special Reports if the ?Senate desires. He asked for someone to make an appropriate motion. 5) University Counsel Scott Chafin has written a letter to Jim Mattox regarding the Open Records status of some documents in the University of Houston Parking and Transportation Department. After writing several letters to the Parking and Transportation Department requesting an Administrative Staff Manual, Speaker Danke filed a Texas Open Records Act requesting same and was told that the Department did not have such a manual. Speaker Danke said he found this situation unacceptable and asked all Senators to ask their constituents what improvements should be made in the Parking and Transportation Department. He announced that the first Parking and Transportation Advisory Board Meeting is going to be sometime in October.

## Agenda Item of the Week:

When fulfilling long-term goals, only work with one at a time. This enables an individual to focus on one specific goal and not feel overwhelmed with the amount of time it takes to accomplish the task. The goals Speaker Danke has decided to concentrate on are Parking (external) and improving the condition of the Senate Journals (internal).

## 7. *Special Reports:* None

## 8. *One Minute Speeches by the Members.*

Senator Browne - Told the Senate that he attended the last football game and congratulated the football team.

Senator Hicks - Informed all that he thought the Senators, not just the executive branch, should have been invited to the G. Gordon Liddy reception. He also added that despite what President Belicove felt about the number of senators who volunteered at the Shasta Referendum polls, he felt that a lot of the Senators did help in the election. He also mentioned that it is not the Senate's responsibility to execute legislation, but the Executive Branch's.

Senator Spacek - Expressed concern about the nameplates that were going to be purchased. She questioned where the money was coming from and why the cost per nameplate was so expensive.

President Belicove - Answered that the money was coming from the Special Projects Fund.

Senator Wuthrich - Clarified that the thirty dollars was the amount the Students' Association was paying for all the nameplates.

Senator Harper - Began by mentioning the recent article in the local paper pertaining to Texas A&M's push for the George Bush Library on their Campus. He emphasized that the city of Houston should support the University of Houston and its efforts to obtain the Library on the UH campus.

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Speaker Pro Tempore Marino - Is currently organizing a reception for all Senators, Deans, and Assistant Deans. The Reception will occur towards the end of November. Please meet with him if there are any questions.

Senator Sharma - Brought everyone up to date on the results of the Referendum and the final decision will be next week.

Senator Karim - Congratulated the football team for their performance last week.

Senator Miklos - Told the Senate that the Senators who did not participate in the referendum missed out meeting their fellow students within their college.

## 9. Report of Standing Committees:

1. Academic Affairs - Yahya Saeed, Chair - Met with quorum and reported out favorable on the following nominations: Rebekah Peszko, Teaching Excellence Awards Selection Committee and Rikhit Arora, Graduate and Professional Studies.

2. Internal Affairs - Chris Browne, Chair - Approved appointments Liesl Owens, Humanities and Fine Arts, Pos. #2. and Vikram Bhatia, 1990 Election Commissioner.

The Committee gave their approval for SB26006: A SENATE BILL AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FROM THE SENATE SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND and SB26001: A SENATE BILL AMENDING TITLE 5 OF THE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION ELECTION CODE. In regards to SB26001, Senator Browne commented that the Residence Halls Association President Lee Grooms was unsatisfied with the new election code, but feels it will succeed. Senator Browne stated that the Internal Affairs At this time a point of information was called by President Belicove stating that he did not agree with the previous statement pertaining to Lee Grooms. The Committee did not approve SB26002: AN AMENDMENT REQUIRING EXECUTIVE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY.

3. Student Life - Rekha Sharma, Chair - Reported out favorably on all with the exception of the following: John Jetty, Handicapped Student Advisory Board and Yemeen Rahman, Religion Center Policy Board.

In addition, the Committee reported out unfavorably on UB26007: A UNIVERSITY BILL CREATING SEPTEMBER 15, 1989, "NATIVE AMERICAN AWARENESS DAY." The committee felt that the author was uncertain about the bill.

4. University Administration and Finance - Robert Miklos, Chair - Approved Benito Alcalá to the Police, Parking and Transportation Advisory Board. The Committee did not report favorably on Raison Coleman, Police, Parking and Transportation Advisory Board. In addition they reported out favorably on the following legislation:

SSR26006: A SENSE OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING A FOUR WAY TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT GATE 19

UB26010: A UNIVERSITY BILL ESTABLISHING A PERMANENT GRADUATE ADVISOR IN THE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

10. Report of the Select Committee: None

11. Special Reports: None

12. Unfinished Business and General Orders:

a. Presidential Nominations and Appointments

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Senator Saeed moved to consider Rebekah Peszko, Teaching Excellence Awards Selection Committee and Rikhit Arora, Graduate and Professional Studies. The motion was seconded by Senator Israel and brought to a direct vote. The appointments were approved unanimously.

Senator Sharma, Chair of the Student Life Committee motioned to approve all except John Jetty, Handicapped Student Advisory Board and Yemeen Rahman, Religion Center Policy Board. The motion was seconded by Senator Hicks. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Senator Miklos put forth the motion to approve Benito Alcala to the Police, Parking and Transportation Advisory Board and to disapprove Raison Coleman to the Police, Parking and Transportation Advisory Board. Senator Wuthrich seconded the motion. A direct vote was taken and Benito Alcala was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Senator Browne to approve Liesl Owens, Humanities and Fine Arts, Pos. #2, and Vikram Bhatia, 1990 Election Commissioner. Senator Sharma seconded the motion. There was no general debate and the appointments were approved unanimously. At this time Liesl Owens was sworn into the Senate.

## b. Legislation

Senator Miklos moved to consider favorably SSR26006: A SENSE OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A FOUR WAY TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT GATE 19. As Speaker in favor of the legislation, Senator Miklos felt this resolution was the appropriate thing to do before someone got injured or killed. In a point of information Speaker Pro Tempore asked where the funds would come from. Senator Miklos confirmed the money would be obtained from the city of Houston. A direct vote was taken without objection on Sense of the Senate Resolution 26006. It passed unanimously.

Senator Miklos motioned to consider UB26010: A UNIVERSITY BILL ESTABLISHING A PERMANENT GRADUATE ADVISOR IN THE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE. As Speaker in favor, Senator Miklos felt that there should be an advisor who helps with problems concerning graduate students. In addition, there should be a phone number to call regarding graduate concerns. As Speaker Against, Senator Hicks felt that the financial aid office is already unorganized and this bill would only complicate the situation. In General Debate, Senator Sharma explained to the Senate that if there was an advisor to cater to the graduate students' needs, the rest of the Financial Aid Office could focus on Undergraduate issues. President Belicove told Senator Hicks that if a commitment is made to Graduate students, this will help solve the problems in the Financial Office. Being a Graduate Student, Senator Parker felt this bill would certainly help the situation. Senator Hicks added that the Financial Aid Offices should implement a training program as well as a supervisor to alleviate some of the chaos in the office. Senator Karim moved to close discussion and the motion failed. Senator Spacek asked if the advisor would be a trained in dealing with graduate problems. President Belicove confirmed that there would be a trained advisor. Senator Hicks reminded the Senate to completely understand the facts in the bill before voting on it. A direct vote was taken and the bill failed.

The following was added to the minutes and written by Senator Robert Miklos:

The seven abstention votes on UB 26010 were totally inappropriate, and showed a total lack of responsibility. I am not opposed to Senator Hicks's no vote. He explained his vote, and this is his legitimate right. The seven abstentions, however, were without explanation, and I am left to wonder why they were cast. Abstentions should be reserved for conflicts of



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interest, or other appropriate problems. Simply abstaining because one is unsure of a bill is totally inexcusable. It is the unquestioned job of each Senator to be aware of all legislation coming before the Senate that night. But maybe I am asking too much.

Robert Miklos

Chairman, University Administration and Finance

Senator Miklos moved to consider SB26001: A SENATE BILL AMENDING TITLE 5 OF THE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION ELECTION CODE. This was seconded by Senator Browne. As speaker in favor, Senator Miklos told the Senate that 65% of my constituents voted with a Texas Drivers License and could not have voted if only University of Houston Identification cards were allowed. He explained that the proposed election code was the only plan that would last the test of time. He added that in the future all student will learn where to vote and voter turn out will eventually increase. As Speaker Against, Senator Israel informed the Senate that many freshman did not know where to vote. In General Debate, Senator Wuthrich moved to amend the Election code to add Pre-Pharmacy under the P.G.H site. There was no objection, and it was added by general consensus. In addition, Senator Saeed told everyone that the students are very apathetic and the voter turn out will be lower. Senator Hicks felt the bill should be returned back to Committee because the University Center Satellite is vacant after 4 p.m., pre pharmacy should be added, spelling errors were present within the document, and the issue of affidavits should be resolved. Senator Parker informed the Senate that people do visit the UC Satellite after 4 p.m.. Senator Sharma felt that Senator Hicks' recommendation served no purpose and asked why he did not voice his concerns for this bill at the Committee meeting. Sending the bill back to committee will only prolong the process of passing the legislation. A vote was taken on referring the bill back to Committee and it failed. In General Debate over the original election code, Senator Browne explained that the Election Code has been discussed in Committee and also the Executive Committee meeting. He added that the students need educated facts. In addition, it is the responsibility of the candidate to obtain votes in order to win the election, not the location site. At this time Speaker Danke passed the gavel to Speaker Pro Tempore Larry Marino. Senator Danke motioned for an amendment. It read as follows: If a student's name does not appear on the college roster, then the student can vote by affidavit in the election commissioner's office only. The motion was seconded by Senator Miklos. As Speaker in Favor, Senator Danke explained that legitimate students were not on any of the rosters in the recent referendum and under the code as stated would have to wait until the confusion cleared, effectively denying their vote. A vote was taken and the amendment was passed unanimously. Senator Browne moved to add Pre-Business under Business. This was seconded by Senator Danke. After no general debate a direct vote was taken and it passed unanimously. Senator Browne felt the Senate needed to get the University Bill off the Senate floor. Senator Danke felt the new election code met all standards except whether it will have an increase or decrease on voter turnout. He added that the new code shifted from the freshman to the upperclassmen. Senator Browne felt that the decrease in voter turnout was not true in the College of Architecture. He is convinced that students will have to get used to the new election code. He then moved to call a question. The motion was undebatable and it passed. A hand vote was taken and the Senate Bill passed. At this time, the gavel was passed back to Senator Danke.

Speaker Danke filed the following as his reason for voting as he did:

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"The Speaker rarely comes off of the chair to influence the assembly. When it is done, the Speaker owes the members of the Senate an explanation. I had two purposes in mind when I passed the gavel. The first was to insure that all members of the Student Body could vote in the upcoming election. The second was to pass the election code bill. There were several reasons I thought the bill should pass. First, it has been draining much of the Senate's time. With many similarly important things to discuss, it is my position our efforts had passed the point of diminishing returns. Second, the incoming Election Commissioner needed some basis upon which to start his work. Third, parts of the bill may always be amended if new information about time-saving procedures or cost-cutting measures is forthcoming. Fourth, it is decent legislation that had weathered several committee meetings and not a little abuse. Internal Affairs has its hands full with the Bylaws and Constitutional revisions; I had compelling reasons to no longer burden them with the election code. Therefore, my vote was in the affirmative for passage."

Senator Browne moved to consider SB26002: AN AMENDMENT REQUIRING EXECUTIVE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY. It was seconded by Speaker Pro Tempore Marino. After no general debate, a vote was taken and the bill failed.

Speaker Pro Tempore Marino moved to consider UB26007: A UNIVERSITY BILL CREATING SEPTEMBER 15, 1989, "NATIVE AMERICAN AWARENESS DAY." The motion was seconded by Senator Sharma. The bill was taken to a vote and University Bill 2607 failed.

A motion was made to consider SB26006: A SENATE BILL AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FROM THE SENATE SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND. The motion was seconded by Senator Browne. He added that the nametags were available to the Senate at a relatively inexpensive fee. He was in favor of this action. A vote was taken and it passed unanimously.

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

The following individuals were introduced to and referred to the following Committees:

Stephanie Menzies, Spirit Board, SL  
Laurel Keith, Spirit Board, SL  
Michael Baker, Spirit Board, SL  
Loren Israel, Child Care Center Advisory Board, SL

Senator Browne motioned to have Rudy Davalos speak under Special Reports during the Senate Meeting on October 23, 1989. Senator Sharma seconded the motion. A vote was taken on the motion to have both men speak and it was unanimous.

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

A motion was put forth to bypass and consider SR26005: A STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION SENATE RESOLUTION STATING THE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION POSITION ON A TIME FRAME FOR DROP & ADD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON. In general debate, Senator Hicks motioned to get two minutes to read the legislation. A General Consensus was taken. The Senate reconvened. Senator Mason expressed that the students needed more than two days to add/drop. Senator Browne told the Senators that the Senate needed to be in favor of the proposed legislation. Senator Sharma added that if there was a five day add/drop then the student has missed a whole week of classes. Senator Karim said he was in favor of the bill. Speaker Pro Tempore Marino motioned to amend the Resolution to add a Resolved stating: That the University of Houston Students' Association stand strongly opposed to "scheduling regular drop/add before classes begin" This was seconded by Senator Israel. In general debate, a motion was put forth by Speaker Pro Tempore Marino to add an amendment to the amendment. The



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addition reads as follows: "(As suggested by the ad hoc Committee on Extended Registration)." The motion was seconded by Senator Sharma. At this time, Senator Browne called the previous questions three successive times. All appropriate votes were unanimous.

Senator Browne introduced SR26006: A STUDENTS ASSOCIATION SENATE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE OF PROPOSITION 21 IN THE NOVEMBER 1989 STATEWIDE ELECTION  
Senator Browne moved to bypass and consider SR26007: A STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 15 TO OCTOBER 21, 1989 TO BE DESIGNATED AS "STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION ANTI-APATHY WEEK." This was seconded by Senator Sharma. In general Debate, Senator Israel informed the Senate that the next Committee meeting will not be before Homecoming, so it is urgent that the Resolution be bypassed and considered at the meeting. Senator Mason added that all Universities have traditions, and this resolution would give the another tradition to the University of Houston. A direct vote was taken and the vote to pass SR26007 was unanimous.

## 15. *Presidential Nominations and Appointments:*

UB26011: A UNIVERSITY BILL CHANGING THE PROCEDURE FOR CHOOSING THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE DAILY COUGAR

UB26012: A UNIVERSITY BILL ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE RECYCLING PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

## 16. *Comments and Announcements:*

Senator Miklos: Will be meeting with Robert Sheridan on October 17, 1989 at 2:30 p.m..

Senator Sharma - Reminded the Senate of the upcoming International Food Fair on October 18, 1989 from 11:00-2:00 p.m. in the North Patio of the UC.

Senator Hicks - Told the Senate about the recent heart attack of the Interim Dean of Technology.

Senator Wuthrich - The College of Pharmacy will be participating in the "Brown Bag - Patient Counseling at Kroger Stores in Houston.

Vice President Butt - Informed the Senate of the Upcoming Texas State Students' Association Conference. He added that the Executive Branch will need volunteer help for the scheduled upcoming events. Our Students' Association also needs student delegates to attend the T.S.S.A Conference.

Senator Browne - Announced to the Senate that there are two vacancies in the Internal Affairs Committee.

Senator Spacek - Told the Senate that she was glad to be back, from her conference, at the University of Houston and she is proud to be a Cougar!

## 17. *Adjournment:*

The meeting was adjourned by general consent at 9:36 p.m.