

Minutes for July 2, 2008 7:34 pm

- 1) **Called to order:** at 7:34pm
- 2) **Present:** Sam, Kelly, Jackie Franceska, Van, Jeremy, Manny, Jonathan, Sean, Amod, Mary
- 3) **Reading and approval of the Senate Journal:** Bypassed/Approved
- 4) **Special Reports:** NONE
- 5) **Students wishing to address their Senate:** NONE
- 6) **Two minute speeches by the members:**

Jonathan asks when the funds from Campus Activities will be received by a brother of his (Greek); Amod addresses fees added to tuition, asks for SGA's help in this matter and try to find solutions to see why fees are allowed to be added on after the fact (payment), requests help with solving this problem, mentions that there are students who get charged where no material could have been required i.e. online classes, DVD's; Van adds on and says that the system is being blamed (PeopleSoft being blamed), Sean asks if any bill has been passed that must inform SGA of fees added on before they are added on, Sam states that this is not the first time this has happened
- 7) **Report of the President:** Sam
 - a) Yields time to Marcela: Reminds us of SGA's participation in Cat's Back
 - b) Thanks those who attended the meeting
 - c) Addresses the issue with fees: this is not the first time this incident has occurred, wants to make sure that students have adequate time to pay these fees, mentions that the fees are mandatory and have been forgotten, best way to handle is to make sure that students have adequate time, mentions that the University has allotted time
 - d) New looks: Focus on how do we reshape SGA, we have to be conscious about how we approach students and meet the needs of students, one of the things we are doing is reorganizing the executive branch
 - e) Nominating Jeremy for Associate Director of External Affairs/Governmental Relations- we want a continued engagement in political affairs, we have to understand what is going on in higher education in Texas in the political sense, looking to see what we can do engage students in political affairs, Jeremy has experience working with members of congress (Nick Lampson), encourages his nomination
 - f) Projects: TSA- coming up in three weeks, SGA is organizing a meeting in Austin, this is the first time a meeting like this has happened, attempted in 2003 and was not successful, this will be the first time this has happened in 20 years
 - g) College Councils: Anyone interested
 - h) Cougar Nation

- i) Legislative proposal will be made, will have it soon
- 8) **Report of the Vice President:** NONE
- 9) **Director of External Affairs:** NONE
- 10) **Director of Public Relations:** NONE
- 11) **Director of Finance:** NONE
- 12) **Report of the Speaker :** Alex
 - a) Encourages Senators to get involved with projects; mentions College Councils needed involvement
 - b) Acknowledges Kelly, Sean, and Jackie for working on College Council research
 - c) Would like for us to refer to each other by title
 - d) Check your emails and try to respond as fast as possible
 - e) Readership Program; Kelly, Franceska, Alex meeting with Mary Jo to discuss USA Today
 - f) On behalf of Jonas: Orientation-only received one email back
 - g) Taste of Cougar Goodness: center around election year "Vote Cougar Pride"
 - h) Legislation: When the president makes a nomination it is an equivalent to writing a piece of legislation
- 13) **Report of Standing Committees:** NONE
- 14) **Report of Select Committees:** NONE
- 15) Introduction and first reading of new legislation *Bypassed* Reading of SGAB45003
- 16) *Bypass* Committee
 - SGAB45003- Kelly urges Senators to look over Bill and mentions that it will increase our effectiveness as a Senate, look for potential candidates, Franceska supports, Sam mentions that the intern program is going to help develop the leaders of tomorrow, we should worry about who comes after us
- 17) **New business and general orders:**
 - a) Confirmation of Jeremy Edwards: *Confirmed*
Jeremy mentions having a lot of knowledge with regard to this subject, mentions voter registration, mentions SGA trying to widen SGA's influence; Sam mentions making SGA more effective, the role of the senate is a policy making body, needs to be more respect for the separation of powers, Kelly mentions that there is not enough interaction in the office
 - b) Committee Bypass: *Bypassed*
 - c) Bill SGAB45003 *Passed*
- 18) **Closing Roll Call:** Sam, Amod, Jeremy, Jackie, Franceska, Kelly, Sean, Van, Mary, Alex, Manny
- 19) **Comments and Announcements:**
 - a) Amod: Will talk more to State Representative Hubert Voet, hiring students to aid in his campaign, if anyone is interested in helping get in touch with Amod

b) Sean: SPB is hosting an event at the games room on July 10,2008- free billiards, pizza, table tennis, bowling 8pm-11pm

c) Sam: Check up on fellow Senators, try to be a peer mentor for Senators who look confused or lost, want to keep professional but at the same time keep it a family

20) Adjournment at 8:10pm