



# STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION SENATE JOURNAL

TWENTY-SIXTH SENATE  
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

Eleventh Meeting of the Session  
Monday, September 11, 1989  
Dallas/El Paso Rooms, 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, Browne, Danke, Harper, Hicks, Israel, Marino, Mason, Miklos, Owens, Parker, Potter, Regan, Spacek, Ware, Wuthrich, Zarka, Wilson.

The following Senators were absent: Gadberry, Traverse

The following Senators were excused: Kratzer, Sharma and Saeed

The following Senators were late: Karim, Patel

The following Executive Cabinet members were present: President Belicove, Vice President Butt, Mark Burge

The following University Officials were present: Interim President Magner, Nyla Ptolmey, and Thomas Mercado

*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 began the Senate meeting by welcoming Interim President Magner. Concerning the future of Undergraduate Studies and Undergraduate Education at the University of Houston, President Belicove was pleased with Interim President Magner's comments on the issue. He then addressed some of the issues concerning undergraduate studies on the campus.

Both President Belicove and Interim President Magner agreed that the University of Houston is suffering an imbalance between research studies and teaching. These areas are all important to the University, but the majority of students are Undergraduate students. The University needs to take a broader look as well as place a higher emphasis on Undergraduate Studies. Many systems that the University of Houston provides are unresponsive to the Undergraduate students. One such system, the Add/ Drop system, has denied courses to students forcing them prolong their studies at the University instead of entering their careers. Overbooking of the Residents Halls, overcrowding of classes and a not appropriately staff at the Financial Aid office are just a few of the severe problems we have that involve the Undergraduates students at the University of Houston campus.

The representation on the Presidential Search Committee has also been affected. During the Presidential Search the University needs to make sure that they find a President that is willing to give equal attention to Undergraduate Studies as well as to research and Graduate Studies. President Belicove felt that the future of the University of Houston lies on Freshman through Senior levels. Furthermore, the President emphasized that the Presidential Search Committee ought to take a long look at their duties to the University of Houston. Are they representing their particular constituents or to do political favors by appointing unworthy representatives to the Committee? The Presidential Search Committee needs to take a look at the big picture.

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The University of Houston Honors Program is known for providing careful treatment and counseling to its students at the University of Houston. President Belicove felt that all students should have this same treatment. He informed the Senate that twenty thousand of the thirty thousand students are Undergraduates. The University does a lot to attract our prospective students, but as soon as the University gets them here, the University then ignores the needs of the students. He added that the University needs to find a University President that will follow in the footsteps of Doctor Magner. In addition, we need to make sure that our population, the Undergraduates students, are represented at the University of Houston. He closed by emphasizing that University of Houston represents all students, whether Undergraduate or Graduate students.

5. *Report of the Vice President:* None

6. *Report of the Speaker:*

Speaker Danke began by telling 1) the Senate that the University of Houston is hosting the Texas State Students' Association Conference on October 19-22, 1989. He encouraged all Senators to help out in the Conference as well as send delegates. He informed the Senate that it is the largest student constituent in the nation. The Conference will have excellent speakers. Please contact President Belicove if you are interested in serving on the host committee or being a delegate. 2) He expressed his support for the Leadership Institute for Freshman and Sophomores. He felt it was an excellent program and they have great speaker series, a great way to develop Student Leadership, and the opportunity to meet people. 3) Speaker Danke felt the recent Students' Association Retreat was a success and he thanked everyone for attending. 4) He then applauded Senator Miklos for setting a standard meeting time for the University Administration and Finance Committee. He informed the Senators that if they could not meet at their given committee time, then he would be happy to switch them to another committee.

*Agenda Item of the Week:*

Speaker Danke passed around a "Meet with your Speaker" schedule for the Senators to sign. This schedule ensured that the Senators would be able to meet with him in thirty minute intervals and discuss the actions the Senators will be making in their college.

7. *Special Reports:*

Speaker Danke introduced Interim President George Magner from the School of Social Work. President Magner began by addressing the current student enrollment of 32,000, and full time faculty of 975. He commented that some of the problems the University stem from the high enrollment. Such problems include inadequate parking and the unability of students to obtain the classes that they need. At this time, President Magner asked President Belicove if the Students' Association could provide a representative for the Enrollment Management Committee. Cuts in the budget inhibit the Support Services to provide the necessary care for the students. He added that he was not convinced that the University was serving the students. By the end of the 1989-1990 year, he hoped to create a resolution in response to the present issues. He then told the Senate of the solid working relationship between him and President Belicove and that he was trying hard to respond to the Senate's Legislation. Although the money from the state is stretching thin, he felt the University was in good shape and the students should maintain patience, hope, and tolerance. In regards to the Athletic Program, he insured the Senate that the University has a clean credible program. He then fielded questions from the Senators

Senator Miklos: Asked if Interim President Magner would support a University Bill that would be a reform of the student service fee allocation process specifically dividing the student service fees into separate fees? President Magner thought the idea was worth looking at in the future. He added that several other Universities have a separate athletic fees.

Senator Hicks: Pertaining to the issue of the Shasta referendum, how much support would the students get if it passed? He felt it would carry the weight on the issue. He also reminded Senator Hicks of the other possibilities concerning the issue.

Senator Parker: Asked of the Interim President would be interested in seeing more choices on the referendum? President Magner said he was satisfied with the choices presently on the ballot. He just hoped that would be a good representation of students at the polls.

Donna Urban: Asked him to expound on the earlier speech about needing more money from the state. What type of funds would we be looking at from the state in comparison to the other State supported Universities. He explained that there were two reasons why the two Universities are so wealthy 1)



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Permanent University Funding and 2) A wealthy Alumni. He added that there was no discrimination of schools, they just have additional funds. He enforced the need to expand our University Alumni Organization and private money from the Houston Community.

Bert Steinman: informed the Senate and Interim President Magner of the recent Honors Convocation. At that meeting the speaker told the audience that a large majority of Houston is illiterate or lower learning skills. He asked the President that "Why is it that, in your opinion that we have an explosion of people attempting to receive a higher education? The President explained that there is a paradox in our society. We have a higher education that practically anyone can enter but there are high numbers of people choosing not to further their education. He said that society is not paying attention to all the people that are trying to struggle up the system of education.

Senator Harper: Asked why The University of Houston does not raise their tuition to keep down the enrollment of the school. President Magner informed the Senate that the University of Houston is the premier institution of Southeast Texas and with this idea in mind, the University can not keep out people by raising admissions.

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

President Belicove: Addressed the issue of funding this year. The University did rather well, but this does not reach very far. With this money we need to take a hard look at the what is more important : faculty raises, support for academic programs or for a small system development center at the University of Houston Downtown. He felt that the latter, is not an appropriate way to use University money. Rather it should go into Undergraduate studies and programs here at this campus.

Speaker Pro Tempore Marino: He thanked Dr. Roland Smith, Sharon Richardson, and Guadalupe Quintanilla for coming to the Students' Association Retreat. Senator Marino encouraged more people to come to the retreat next year, it was a worthwhile event.

## 9. *Report of Standing Committees:*

1. Academic Affairs - Yahya Saeed, Chair - None
2. Student Life - Rekha Sharma, Chair -  
Senator Hicks gave the report for the Student Life committee. He reported that the committee met twice. He asked that instead of a formal report on the Shasta Referendum, the Cougar Guard should speak. Speaker asked for objections. There were two; a vote was taken and the vote failed.
3. University Administration and Finance - Robert Miklos, Chair -  
Senator Miklos reported that the Committee met on Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. All members were present. The committee elected the vice chair Steve Harper. They reported out favorably after amending UB26008: A UNIVERSITY BILL CHANGING THE DESIGNATION AND SCOPE OF THE AD HOC BOOKSTORE REVIEW COMMITTEE. The committee also reported out favorably on the following appointments to University Committees:  
Dennis McDougall, Protection of Human Subjects  
David Anderson, Campus Safety Committee
4. Internal Affairs - Chris Browne, Chair  
The committee reported out favorably on the following nominations and appointments:  
Carey Eskridge, Co-Director of External Affairs  
Iram Faridi, Assistant to Directors  
Donna Urban, Senator for the College of Business Administration, Pos.2  
Bruce Ciloski, Director of Personnel  
No action was taken on the Election Code Bill, The Budget Bill, or the Executive Accountability Bill.

## 10. *Report of the Select Committee:*

11. *Special Orders:* None

## 12. *Unfinished Business and General Orders:*

- a. Presidential Nominations and Appointments  
A motion was made by Senator Miklos that both Dennis McDougall and David Anderson be approved as a block. This was seconded by Senator Browne. As Speaker in favor, Senator Miklos

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explained to the Senate that both had been reviewed by a committee and were standard re-appointments. Both have attended the committee meetings, and he felt they were qualified. There was no Speaker against or General Debate. The motion was brought to a vote, and they were approved unanimously.

A motion on the floor was made by Senator Hicks to discharge and consider the appointments:

Hank Courson, Student Publications Committee

Paul Hogle, Organizations Board

The prior motion was seconded by Speaker Pro Tempore Marino. In General Debate, Senator Parker felt both were very interested in the positions and were willing to put forth whatever time was needed in order to get the job done. A vote was taken on the appointments and the vote was unanimous.

Senator Browne put forth the motion to consider the following appointments:

Carey Eskridge, Co-Director of External Affairs

Iram Faridi, Assistant to Directors

Donna Urban, Senator for the College of Business Administration, Pos.2

Bruce Ciloski, Director of Personnel

This was seconded by Senator Parker. There was no General Debate. A vote was taken and they were approved unanimously.

At this time Donna Urban was sworn in as Senator number two at the College of Business Administration.

President Belicove questioned why the nominees in the Academic Affairs Committee were not approved. Vice Chair Senator Barrus answered the question by saying that Senator Saeed has not yet set a time to meet on Tuesdays and he failed to show up to the previous meeting. Senator Miklos moved to redistribute one to each of the other standing committees. This was seconded by Senator Regan. As speaker in favor President Belicove emphasized the Ken Slavic was a standard re-appointment, and added that the Research Council will reconvene soon. It sure would help if there was a student representative on the committee. Senator Miklos added that he did not believe in circumvention of Legislative process and he believes that the committees should have a chance to look over the applications. The motion was taken to a vote and it passed. The following day, Tuesday September 12, 1989, several members of the Academic Affairs filed an explanation for their vote. It reads as follows: We would like to file an explanation of our vote at the last Senate meeting,

During the Senate meeting, a motion was made, seconded, and passed which striped the appointments from the Academic Affairs Committee and redistributed them among the remaining Senate Committees. We fail to understand the need for this action. The fastest any of the other committees can report on the appointments is the next Senate meeting, we find two explanations possible. The first is that the Senate does not feel the Academic Affairs committee can handle its business or will meet before the next meeting. We take exception to the insult payed to us. The second possibility is the motion was in error, hopefully due to confusion or inexperience.

Since we did feel the motion was flawed, we voted against it.

Karl Barrus, Sheila Potter, Loren Israel

Ziad Zarka, and Larry Marino

## b. Other business and General Orders:

Senator Miklos moved to adopt the amended UB26008: A UNIVERSITY BYLL CHANGING THE DESIGNATION AND SCOPE OF THE AD HOC BOOKSTORE REVIEW COMMITTEE. This was seconded by Senator Israel. As Speaker in favor, Senator Miklos added that his committee took into consideration everybody's desires. After there was no General Debate a vote was taken and it passed.

A motion was made by Senator Hicks to bypass and consider SB26003: A SENATE BILL ESTABLISHING RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR A STUDENT REFERENDUM CONCERNING THE STATUS OF A LIVE MASCOT. As Speaker in favor, Senator Hicks moved to amend the bill to read as follows:

Under Section three; Change Wednesday, September 27, and Thursday, September 28, 1989 to Monday, October 2 and Tuesday October 3, 1989.

After President Belicove asked Senator Hicks to explain why the amendment was necessary, a general consent was asked to allow the Cougar Guard to speak. A Sponsor from the Cougar Guard explained that if the referendum was held off until after the third football game, then the students



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would get the initial impact of not having a cougar. Whether the impact is positive or negative, the Cougar Guard wanted to find out. As Speaker Against, Senator Miklos told the Senator that he was not against the Cougar Guard, but regardless of the date, people are going to vote the way they feel. In General Debate, Senator Regan felt that Monday was a bad day to hold the elections because the Daily Cougar did not publish a Monday paper. Senator Harper favored the Monday and Tuesday change. He wanted people to see the Cougar Guard go on the field without the cougar. Senator Potter felt that if the change was made it would be in favor of the people in favor of replacement of the Cougar. She added that the referendum needed to be for all sides of the issue. Senator reminded the Senators that one purpose of the referendum was to try out the election code process. Senator Ware felt that the Students' Association should do the utmost to help the Cougar Guard. Senator Marino called the previous question to close debate. A vote was taken pertaining to the amendment to the bill and the amendment failed.

Senator Miklos moved to amend to include a fourth option as well as switch the order on the ballot to read as follows:

Under Section Four; add a fourth choice stating, "I favor the immediate replacement of Shasta." This fourth choice would appear as the first choice on the ballot. The second would be, "I do not favor the replacement of a live Cougar." The third would read, "I favor the acquisition of a replacement cougar when 75% of the projected cost (65,000) is raised to build a new facility. The final choice would appear fourth, "I favor the sponsorship of a cougar with appropriate recognition to be housed at the Houston Zoo. I understand that the cougar will not attend any University activities." Senator Owens wanted to add a clause at the bottom of the referendum stating that the election process was only an opinion from the Student Body. President Belicove told the Senate that Interim President Magner cannot dictate to the University the decision on the Cougar. The student opinion is a very vital part of the decision process. Senator Mason added that he disagreed with the Houston Zoo option. Senator Marino stated that all the options were needed because it gave more weight on the issue. For the records, President Belicove voiced that in a democratic society, the people should be given a right to choose the option of their choice. There were three secondson a motion to close debate, a vote was taken on the above amendment and it passed. Speaker Danke then announced that the Senate was now in General Debate on the Bill as a whole. President Belicove reminded the Senators he was for the referendum, but he was going to need all Senators to volunteer to work at the polling sites. After further discussion, a vote was taken and the Senate Bill passed

### 13. *New Business and General Orders:*

#### a. *Presidential Nominations and Appointments:*

President Belicove introduced the following Appointments:

Lisa Stopp, Handicapped Student Advisory Board  
Cathy McClelland, Handicapped Student Advisory Board  
Michael Danke, Police, Parking, and Transportation Advisory Board  
Raison Coleman, Police, Parking, and Transportation Advisory Board  
Arthur Coley, Co-Director of External Affairs  
Hope Johnston, Assistant to the President and Vice President

#### b. *Other New Business and General Orders:*

Senator Tom Hicks was appointed to Vice Chair of Student Life Committee  
Senator Steve Harper was appointed to Vice Chair of University Administration and Finance.

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

Senator Marino introduced UB26009: A UNIVERSITY BILL PROVIDING FOR UP TO TEN HOURS OF PASS/FAIL FREE-ELECTIVE CREDIT HOURS FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON. The University Bill was referred to the Academic Affairs Committee.

### 15. *Comments and Announcements:*

President Belicove: Congratulated the football team for their victory  
Senator Hicks: Commented that it was good for the Senate to argue over what they thought was right. This type of communication builds character.  
Senator Ware: Thanked the Senate for all the support and he hopes everyone will attend the upcoming football game on September 30, 1989.  
Senator Barrus: Reported that he failed to see how the redistribution of the committee



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- appointments sped up the approval or disapproval of any of the appointments.
- Senator Browne: Applauded last Saturday's Students' Association Retreat. He also announced the next meeting of the Internal Affairs committee next Thursday, at 2:30 p.m., in the Conference Room
- Senator Marino: Announced that his office hours as Speaker Pro Tempore are on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. He applauded the T.S.S.A. convention and added that he had been a delegate at the convention the previous year.
- Senator Hicks: Informed the Senate that he enjoyed the retreat and emphasized that the people he met at the Retreat were very helpful as well as important.
- Senator Parker: Expressed that after attending the meeting, he felt that he had gained a lot from the guest speakers. They answered all of his questions and gave him more information pertaining to the handicapped students.

16. *Adjournment:* The meeting was adjourned by general consent at 9:26 P.M.