

**THIRTY-SECOND SENATE  
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON  
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

**ORDER OF BUSINESS  
Fourteenth Meeting of the 32nd Senate  
Embassy Room, University Center, 7:00 PM  
September 6, 1995**

**1. Call to Order by the Presiding Officer:**

The meeting was called to order by the Speaker of the Senate, Jennifer Zuber at 7:16 p.m.

**2. Call of the Roll by the Secretary:**

The following senators were present: Benito Aguilar, Caryn Arouty, Andrew Becker, Brad Castelo, Tiffany Daniel, Usha Desai, Sherise Duhart, Jon Erickson, John Gafford, Renee Griggs, Aaron Lowe, Casey McMurtry, Natalie Merritt, Nikki Mike, John Moore, Spring Pankratz, Andrea Rachiele, Rana Siam, and Arthur White

The following Senators were absent: Rick Boeker, Claudia Macias, Nicole McZeal, and Shane Schiermeier

The following Senators were excused: Royce Bowie, David Frankfort, Scott Gorrell, Omilla Harrysingh, Nader Shah, Jon Sweet, and Colleen Truitt

The following Executive Cabinet members were present: Giovanni Garibay, Dom Lewinsohn and Kay To

The following university officials were present: Doug Miller, SA Advisor

**3. Reading and Approval of the Senate Journal**

There were no records to approve.

**4. Special Reports:**

None

**5. Students Wishing to Address the Senate:**

Michael Chamberlain from the Cuba Friendship Committee gave report on the sister campus program with the University of Havana. He told about his organization and thanked the Senate for their support both in the past and now. He talked about the twining ceremony that kicked off the project. He spoke of the controversies and how they were handled. He said that his organization had been charged with two responsibilities: how to implement this program and how to assist other student governments in doing the same thing. Mr. Chamberlain talked about the student trip to Cuba and said that it was a huge success. He talked about some of the projects that they are working on now and once again thanked the Senate for their support.

**6. Two Minute Speeches by the Members**

Brad Castelo spoke about Golden Key Honor Society.

**7. Report of the President:**

President Giovanni Garibay said that Metropolitan Volunteer Program had asked him to pass on information about Students for Energy Efficient Environment. Interested parties should see him.

President Garibay welcomed the Senators back from the summer. He then updated them about the changes in the administration. He also updated the Senate on projects he is working on with the Council of

Campus Leaders such as the marquee sign and the campus athletic facility. He encouraged Senators to get involved with the events happening in their respective colleges.

President Garibay informed the Senate that SA is now accessible through UseNet. He said that this has been well received. He said that he wants more feedback from the students. He encouraged the Senators to get their e-mail accounts set up and give that information to the office.

President Garibay introduced James Aldrege as the new reporter covering SA. President Garibay said that the financial aid updated letter campaign went well and that he is still keeping tabs on that important issue. He said that a new organization NASHE (National Association of Students in Higher Education) is having a conference October 15 - 16 to talk about financial aid. He said that many campuses are holding rallies to make the students aware of the problem and that might be a project for UH.

President Garibay brought up the budget that was before the Senate in this meeting. He said that he vetoed two bills that will be talked about later in the meeting.

President Garibay then thanked the Summer Senators for their hard work. He said that a lot was accomplished including the new computers in the offices. He also said that SA has officially hired a new Administrative Secretary, Amy Helbach.

President Garibay reminded the Senate that the first home game in Robertson in over 30 years will be held this weekend. He encouraged all Senators to attend the game as well as the dedication of the Athletic / Alumni Facility before the game.

#### **8. Report of the Vice President:**

Vice President Dom Lewinsohn said that he and President Garibay had met with UH President Goerke as well as Vice President James Hale over the summer. He said that he is working to make credit card payment available for fee bills.

Vice President Lewinsohn discussed the International Study Abroad program and said that anyone interested in the program should see Dr. Sharon Tate. He discussed the reappointment of Kay To for Director of Finance stating that there were no other qualified applicants and that the Senate is aware of her qualifications.

Vice President Lewinsohn said that he had met with Dr. Hernandez a consultant who had come to discuss the advising at UH. He asked the Senators to get him feedback on the advising in their colleges.

Vice President Lewinsohn referred to the many committee appointments that are being nominated at this meeting. He then said that the US Undersecretary of Education would be coming soon and anyone interested in speaking with him should come by the office.

#### **9. Report of the Speaker:**

Speaker of the Senate Jennifer Zuber welcomed the Senators back from summer. She updated those who were gone about her status as Speaker. She said that Justin McMurtry resigned over the summer and she was elected interim Speaker. She said that she will serve until the next meeting and at that time elections will be held for a permanent replacement.

Speaker Zuber reminded the Senate that any two minute speeches, reports or legislation must be submitted to Amy on disk prior to the meeting. She announced that the seat from College of Business Administration #1 was now open, interested parties should see her.

Speaker Zuber asked the Senators to check the committee assignment sheet for accuracy. She also asked them to check the list being circulated with addresses, phone numbers, etc.

Speaker Zuber read the Senate absence policy and told the Senate that since there has been confusion with the changing of her position, there will be an extended deadline for submitting excused absence request forms until September 13. Speaker Zuber reiterated to the Senators that all things pertinent to the meetings will be in their boxes prior to the meeting.

**10. Reports of the Standing Committees**

a) Academic Affairs

Committee Chair Andrea Rachiele said that she will be calling those on the committee within the week. She said that the Optometry Bill is still in committee. She encouraged all to attend the next meeting of the AA committee.

b) Internal Affairs

Committee Chair Brad Castelo said that the Internal Affairs Committee had met and reported favorably on SAR 32006.

c) Student Life

Committee Chair Shane Schiermeier was not present to give a report.

d) University Administration and Finance - Casey McMurtry

Committee Chair Andrew Becker said that the records he received from the summer meetings are incomplete and he will get in touch with the committee once things are sorted out.

**11. Reports of the Select Committees**

There are no Select Committees

**12. Special Orders**

There were no Special Orders.

**13. Introduction and First Reading of New Legislation**

a) Legislation Turned into the Speaker Prior to Publication of the Agenda

**UB 32004 A Students' Association Resolution Advocating the Pursuit of Excellence in Representation of the University of Houston Student Body**  
Sponsor: ?

b) Legislation Introduced on the Senate Floor

**UB 3200? A University Bill**  
Sponsor: Andrew Becker

Senator McMurtry reminded the Senate that proper procedure for the submitting of legislation is to turn three copies into the Speaker prior to the meeting. He said that the Speaker retains one copy, gives one copy to the Administrative Secretary and one to the Chair of the appropriate committee.

Senator Becker read UB 3200?

Senator Erickson yielded the floor to Director To.

Director To made sure that everyone had a copy of the budget and asked that it be passed expeditiously.

**14. Unfinished Business and General Orders**

a) Presidential Nominations and Appointments

1. Committee on Academic Affairs:  
None

2. Committee on Internal Affairs:  
None

3. Committee on Student Life:

Committee Appointments:

Raquel Kelley	Student Traffic Court
Kirk Kaszynski	Student Traffic Court
Calin O'Prean	Student Traffic Court
Ramon Dixon	Religion Center Policy Board
Frank McGowan	Student Publications Committee

4. Committee on University Administration and Finance:  
None

b) Reconsideration of Presidential Vetoes and Other Legislative Business

1. Presidential Vetoes to be Reconsidered

**UB 32004 A University Bill**

Speaker Zuber read a memo from President Garibay about the changes in wording that need to be made based on his conversations with RHA.

Senator Moore moved to make a special order to send the bill back to committee to be voted on at the next meeting. Senators Gafford and Castelo seconded the motion.

A unanimous vote made a special order to send the bill back to committee.

**SAB 32006 A Students' Association Bill**

Speaker Zuber read a memo from President Garibay stating that SAB 32006 would be better executed as a SAR.

Senator Castelo moved to make a special order to send the bill back to committee to be voted on at the next meeting. Senator Gorrell seconded.

Senator McMurtry said that it was his understanding that discussion should take place before the motion was made.

Senator Zuber showed Senator McMurtry where the code stated that a motion must be made.

Senator McMurtry said that he had a discrepancy with Speaker Zuber's interpretation and he saw the motion as invalid.

Senator Castelo rescinded the motion.

Senator McMurtry moved to consider the bill now. Senator Erickson seconded.

As a point of information, Senator Becker asked to be briefed on the allocation of the computers.

As a point of information, Senator McMurtry asked if that fell within the realm of discussion.

Senator Smith yielded the floor to Director To.

Director To said that she would rather continue to walk down the hall to use the computer in the Senate office than to go through an hour of debate.

Senator Castelo agreed that the Treasurer should have a new computer, but took exception with the argument about non-use by the Senate. He said that if a computer should be moved it should be from the President's office. He said that the duties of the President and the Administrative Secretary overlap and both positions do not need computers.

As a point of information, Senator McMurtry told the Speaker that his previous comment was posed as a point of information so he should still be able to receive the floor in the first round - stating that it should be his turn.

Senator Rachiele said that this bill was not even on the floor yet. She said that the motion is only to bring the bill on the floor.

As a point of information, Senator McMurtry said that there were three speakers on the merits of the bill so it needed to be brought on the floor.

Senator Erickson called the question. Senators McMurtry, Merritt and Rachiele seconded.

Senator McMurtry called for division of assembly and the Senate voted in favor of immediate consideration of the bill.

Vice President Lewinsohn updated the Senators as to what happened in the summer. He said that the original distribution took the Vice President's computer. He said that the Director of Finance needs a new computer desperately. He urged the Senators to look and see who is really using the computer.

Senator Rachiele said that she did not care where the computer went. She said that when the Speaker's office is locked the Senators had no where to go. She said that one should be accessible to the Senators at all times.

Senator Erickson moved to limit debate to three minutes per person with a limit of two speeches per person.

Senator Becker made a friendly amendment to limit debate for a maximum fifteen minute total. Seconded by Senator Gafford.

Senator Erickson did not accept the friendly amendment.

The motion to limit discussion to three minutes per person with a limit of two speeches per person was passed.

Senator McMurtry said that the bill allows for one computer for Executive general use to be given to whoever needed it most. He said that both the President and Vice President say Director To needs the computer so she should have it. Senator McMurtry read the original memo from President Garibay that said that the DPR's old computer should go to Director of Finance since it is adequate for her job. He said that Doug Miller recommended that a bill would take care of this better than just a recommendation. Senator McMurtry said to say that there should be two computers in the Executive branch and none in the Senate office is absurd, the Senate should decide. He said that this is an internal issue within the Executive branch. He said that just because no one has used the Senate computer, does not mean that no one will.

Senator Sweet said that debate was heard on this issue for an hour and a half. He said that this could take all night. He said that this should be hashed out in committee. He moved that this bill be sent back to committee.

Senator McMurtry said that we know the situation so why should we delay.

Senator Castelo said that this was worked out and agreed to by both branches. He said to send it to committee and not waste any more time.

Senator Becker yielded the floor to Director To asking if the computer that was formerly in the DPR's office is adequate.

Director To said that it was not. She added that the question is about the one in the Senate office. She said that time was too valuable to sit and discuss again, she could just continue to walk over there everyday.

As a point of information, Senator McMurtry said that the computer in Vice President Lewinsohn's office is not the one that Director To has.

Senator Rachiele reminded the Senate that they were reconsidering a Presidential veto. She said that the Senate voted this in and the President said no. She said that the bill has already been approved and it only takes a two thirds vote to get this done.

Senator Gorrell called the question to refer the bill to committee. Senators Moore, Castelo and Smith seconded.

The Senate voted unanimously to call the question. The Senate defeated the motion to

send the bill back to committee.

As a point of information, Senator McMurtry asked where they were on the list of names on the original motion.

Senator Castelo motioned the previous question. Senators Smith, Moore and Rachiele seconded.

The question was called to reconsider the bill.

Senator Erickson said that Director To needed to leave and there are several things pertaining to her later on the agenda , so please move this along.

As a point of information, Senator McMurtry reminded the Senate that there must be a two thirds vote.

As a point of information, Senator Mike asked if the bill could be read.

Speaker Zuber read the bill.

As a point of information, Senator Becker asked if DPR stood for Director of Public Relations.

The Senate voted on overriding the veto. Division of assembly was called.

The Senate voted to override the Presidential veto.

President Garibay asked to move things along to facilitate Director To leaving.

There was some discrepancy about the vote when one Senator was confused as to which part to stand for.

Senator Moore moved to reconsider the vote.

As a point of information, Senator McMurtry said that Senator Moore was on the minority side and could not move to reconsider, only a member of the majority could move to reconsider.

Senator Duhart moved to reconsider the vote.

As a point of information, Senator McMurtry said that the motion on the floor to suspend the rules of order to move directly to Introduction of Presidential Nominations and then to Motions on Committee Bypass. Senators Rachiele, Merritt and Moore seconded.

President Garibay introduced Kay To as the reappointment for Director of Finance.

Senator Erickson moved to bypass Kay To from committee. Senator McMurtry seconded.

Senator McMurtry said that now he had the floor and he would make a number of comments using the full amount of time he has allotted. He first stated that all Senators in this room will maintain order at all times. Second, he said that it takes less time to say no discussion is necessary and move directly to a vote than to make a motion to call the question and then vote to call the question and then to take the vote. He said he was only trying to move things on expediently. He said, third, that if Senators want the floor, stand up.

With no further discussion, the Senate proceeded to vote to bypass Kay To from committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Senator McMurtry moved to consent to the nomination. Senator Merritt seconded.

The Senate vote unanimously to consent to the reappointment of Kay To as Director of Finance.

President Garibay then swore in Director To.

President Garibay asked if the rules could be suspended to go directly to the budget since it involved Director To.

As a point of information, Senator McMurtry asked what part of the agenda the Senate was currently on.

Speaker Zuber said that the current motion is to move to reconsider the vote on overriding the Presidential veto.

In a point of order, Senator Rachiele clarified the rules of order.

Senators Desai, Sweet and Moore seconded the previous motion.

Senator McMurtry asked why the vote should be reconsidered.

Senator Duhart said that she feels that the old DPR computer would work in the Senate office.

Senator Castelo said that the Executive branch already had a computer for their discretion. He said that the Senate computer should stay.

Senator Merritt reiterated that the Executive branch could decide where their computer goes.

Senator Rachiele said that this already went to Internal Affairs and by sending it to committee, the same IA members will be looking at it.

Vice President Lewinsohn reminded the Senate that this bill will not be returned to committee, the Senate voted to consider it now, if not overridden it dies.

Senator Becker said that the Senate already approved this once.

A Senator called the question. This was seconded by Senators Erickson, Castelo and Becker.

As a point of information, Senator McMurtry reminded the Senate that only two thirds need to approve.

Speaker Zuber clarified that the Senate was voting to reconsider the past vote. Division of assembly was called.

Senator Arouty asked why the vote needed to be reconsidered.

Speaker Zuber said that Senator Duhart stood and was counted at the wrong time.

Senator Boeker asked if this would cause more discussion.

Senator Rachiele clarified that yeas mean that the Senate will just revote on the override.

The Senate voted and the motion to reconsider the vote failed. The Presidential veto was still declared overridden.

2. Committee on Academic Affairs:

Committee Chair Andrea Rachiele said that there was nothing to report at this time.

3. Committee on Internal Affairs:

Committee Chair Brad Castelo moved that the Senate consider SAR 32006. He said that this needs to be revised and they need to move on.

Senator McMurtry read from the code another passage. He then talked about the code being outdated.

The Senate passed SAR 32006 unanimously.

4. Committee on Student Life:  
Committee Chair Schiermeier was not present to give a report.
5. Committee on University Administration and Finance:  
Committee Chair Andrew Becker spoke about a bill that was in committee at this time.  
*This portion of the tape was indecipherable.*

#### 15. New Business and General Orders

##### a) Introduction of Presidential Nominations

###### Committee Appointments:

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Vice President Lewinsohn said that Frank McGowan applied on June 1 and is present at the meeting. He works in advertising for the Daily Cougar.

Senator McMurtry moved to bypass and consent. Seconded by Senator Mike.

Senator McMurtry yielded the floor to Frank McGowan for Student Publications Committee.

Frank McGowan said that he was an ad representative for the Daily Cougar for the last six months. He said that he is a writer and is involved in publication and would like to help ensure that UH continues to have quality publications.

The Senate voted unanimously to bypass and consent Frank McGowan for Student Publications Committee.

Vice President Lewinsohn said that Calin O'Prean also came by the office a long time ago. He said that if he will come in and sit through a three hour Senate meeting then he will make the Undergraduate Council meetings.

Senator McMurtry moved to bypass and consent Calin O'Prean for Undergraduate Council.

Senator McMurtry yielded the floor to Calin O'Prean.

Calin O'Prean said that he was new to SA and wants to do anything to help SA. He said that he has had experience in high school and basically wants to be involved.

The Senate voted unanimously to bypass and consent to Calin O'Prean for Undergraduate Council.

Vice President Lewinsohn said that he wants himself bypassed for Title IX since student are waiting on the formation of this committee to have grievances heard. Also, he wanted to be bypassed from the Athletic Committee since we need a student on the committee with all the activities over there at the new facility.

Senator Moore moved to bypass and consent to Dom Lewinsohn for Athletics Committee and Title IX Grievance Committee. The motion was seconded by Senator Castelo.

The Senate passed the nomination unanimously.

Vice President Lewinsohn nominated Mike Sachs for Activities Funding Board. He said that AFB is starting to meet and we need to get someone on there. He said that Mike Sachs wants to be involved and will be at the meetings.

Senator Erickson moved to bypass and consent.

As a point of information, Senator Merritt asked the number of positions on AFB.

Vice President Lewinsohn said that SA appoints two and there are seven total seats.

The Senate voted and the nomination passed.

Vice President Lewinsohn nominated Hector Luna for Student Traffic Court. He said that he came in and then sent two faxes. He said that he wants terribly to be involved.

Senator Becker moved to bypass and consent the nomination. Senator Merritt seconded.

The Senate voted unanimously to bypass and consent Hector Luna for Student Traffic Court.

President Garibay said that Calin O'Prean has been in the Student Life Committee for his nomination for Student Traffic Court for three weeks.

Senator McMurtry moved to bypass and consent Calin O'Prean for Student Traffic Court. Senator Erickson seconded.

The Senate voted unanimously.

President Garibay asked that someone make a motion to bypass the budget.

As a point of information, Senator Rachiele asked when the budget is due.

Senator McMurtry said that he would like to read from the code again quoting that the budget must be passed no sooner than the seventh of September which is the next day.

President Garibay asked if the budget could be changed to a SAR so funds would be available.

As a point of information, Senator McMurtry asked if this would change to a temporary budget.

President Garibay said yes.

Senator Merritt said that Director To had to leave, but will answer any questions since she is available through her car phone.

Senator Truitt yielded the floor to Doug Miller.

Doug Miller said that the August 15 budget should correspond with the SFAC report. The temporary budget was made when that was passed out back in February.

Senator McMurtry quoted the Code and said that the Senate should have three weeks, but that one week would be sufficient. He said that since the Executive cabinet did not give appropriate time, the Senate still needed time to look over.

Vice President Lewinsohn said that no money could be spent until the budget has been passed. He asked the Senate to find a way to give SA some working capital.

Senator Erickson yielded the floor to Doug Miller.

Doug Miller clarified that this is a line item budget not a lump sum.

Senator Becker said that it is ridiculous to approve this amount of money with no discussion. He said that a temporary solution needs to be agreed to not anything permanent.

As a point of information, Senator Mike asked why the temporary budget was not made.

President Garibay apologized that the budget was not in before August 15. He said they confused that date with the September seventh deadline.

Senator Rachiele made a friendly amendment to change the resolution to temporary.

As a point of information, Senator Erickson if this trip was for the leadership conference. He said that he was not made aware of the event, he said that he was not aware why the money was needed.

President Garibay said that the trip was for the President, Vice President, Speaker and Student Regent to travel to Washington DC. for the NASHE conference.

Senator Arouty said that money has been allocated for the purpose of the trip.

Senator McMurtry said that they were not actually able to make the budget temporary. He said that he was confused as to the actual need for the money.

Vice President Lewinsohn said that the money was not only for the trip, but for any unforeseen expenditures before the permanent budget was passed.

Senator McMurtry quoted the Code again and said that another resolution could be drafted and passed on the floor to allocate temporary funds. He then read the Code again.

At this time the Senate proceeded to write a resolution to allow funds for the NASHE conference.

Senator McMurtry spoke about the structure of the new resolution.

Senator Becker talked about the budget's important items. He moved to suspend order and move to Introduction of New Legislation. Seconded by Senator Erickson.

The Senate voted unanimously to suspend order.

Senator Becker read SAR 32007.

Senator McMurtry interrupted Senator Becker stating that he could finish the motion.

As a point of order, Senator Rachiele asked where the Senate stood in the order of the agenda.

Speaker Zuber said that the Senate had moved back to introduction of new legislation on the Senate floor.

Senator Erickson asked for an aspirin.

Senator Becker asked what the most expedient way to introduce the new bill.

Senator McMurtry said that he would be happy to do it for him. He then moved to suspend the rules of order and move directly to Committee Bypass. The motion was seconded by Senator Becker.

Some discussion as to rules of order occurred.

Senator Rachiele said that she would like to hear the bill before moving to committee bypass.

Speaker Zuber asked Senator Becker to read his bill.

Senator McMurtry said that he would read the bill. Senator McMurtry then read the majority of the bill stating that the bill would most likely be amended so he would expedite things.

Speaker Zuber stated that the motion on the floor is to move to committee bypass. The motion was seconded by Senator Merritt.

b) Motions on Committee Bypass

Senator McMurtry moved to bypass SAR 32007. The motion was seconded by Senators Becker, Moore and Castelo. The motion passed unanimously.

Senator McMurtry started reading the bill again.

Speaker Zuber stopped Senator McMurtry moved to take a five minute recess.

Speaker Zuber called the meeting back to order.

Senator Rachiele moved for a quorum call.

As a point of information, Senator McMurtry pointed out that Senator Arouty was present.

Speaker Zuber said that the Senate did not have quorum.

Senator McMurtry moved for another quorum call.

Speaker Zuber said that the Senate did not have quorum.

Senator McMurtry requested that an emergency meeting be called to discuss this issue.

Some discussion occurred as to the necessity of a special meeting.

- c) Other New Business and General Orders  
None

#### **16. Closing Call of the Roll By the Secretary**

The following senators were present: Benito Aguilar, Caryn Arouty, Andrew Becker, Brad Castelo, Sherise Duhart, Jon Erickson, Renee Griggs, Casey McMurtry, Nicole McZeal, Natalie Merritt, Nikki Mike, John Moore, Andrea Rachiele, Jon Sweet and Colleen Truitt.

The following Senators were absent: Rick Boeker, Royce Bowie, Tiffany Daniel, Usha Desai, David Frankfort, John Gafford, Aaron Lowe, Claudia Macias, Spring Pankratz, Shane Schiermeier, Stephanie Smith, and Arthur White.

The following Senators were excused: Scott Gorrell, Omilla Harrysingh, Nader Shah, and Rana Siam

#### **17. Comments and Announcements**

#### **18. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by general consent at 9:55 p.m.