

TWENTY-SEVENTH SENATE
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Sixth Meeting of the 27th Senate
Monday, June 4, 1990
Regents Room, University Center 7:00 PM

1. **Call to Order by the Presiding Officer:** Mark Burge, Speaker of the Senate
2. **Call of the Roll by the Secretary:** Nandita Venkateswaran, Senate Secretary
3. **Reading and Approval of the Senate Journal from the Previous Meeting:**
4. **Report of the President:** Paul Hoglund
5. **Report of the Vice President:** Lee Flemming
6. **Report of the Speaker:** Mark Burge
7. **Special Reports:** None
8. **One Minute Speeches by the Members:**
9. **Reports of the Standing Committees:**
 - a) Academic Affairs: Jan Burns, Chair
 - b) Internal Affairs: Tiffany Russell, Chair
 - c) Student Life: Charlie Hasselbrink, Chair
 - d) University Administration & Finance: Shannon Wilkie, Chair
10. **Report of the Select Committee:** None
11. **Special Orders:** None
12. **Unfinished Business and General Orders:**
 - a) Presidential Nominations and Appointments: None
 - b) Other Business and General Orders:
 1. Committee on Academic Affairs:
UB 27006 A UNIVERSITY BILL REQUIRING THAT TEXTBOOKS PRICED MORE THAN FORTY DOLLARS BE PLACED IN M.D. ANDERSON LIBRARY FOR PUBLIC USE
 2. Committee on Internal Affairs:
 3. Committee on Student Life:
UB 27002 A UNIVERSITY BILL INCREASING POLICE PROTECTION
UB 27003 A UNIVERSITY BILL MAKING UPDATED CAMPUS CRIME REPORTS EASILY ACCESSIBLE
SAR 27006 A STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE DIVERSE ETHNIC GROUPS ON CAMPUS BY NAMING A DAY IN THEIR HONOR
 4. Committee on University Administration and Finance:
UB 27004 A UNIVERSITY BILL ESTABLISHING A UNIVERSITY STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY RELATIONS
UB 27005 A UNIVERSITY BILL CREATING A PLACE ON CLASS REGISTRATION FORMS FOR AN OPTIONAL DONATION TO THE UH LIBRARIES

13. New Business and General Orders:

- a) Presidential Nominations and Appointments:
- b) Other New Business and General Orders:

14. Introduction and First Reading of New Legislation:

15. Comments and Announcements:

16. Adjournment:

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

The meeting was called to order by Speaker Burge at 7:05 PM.

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

The following senators were present: Michael C. Berry, P. Jan Burns, Brodrick Dockery, Carey Eskridge, Preeti Gandhi, D. Lee Grooms, Charlie Hasselbrink, Tuan Vu Nguyen, Joel Richards, Michael Rosenberger, Tiffany Russell, Majid Husain.

The following senators were excused: Shannon Wilkie.

The following senators were absent: Michael Floreani, Ziad Zarka.

The following senators were late: John Andrew Berggren, Farrel Sharp.

The following University officials were present: Dr. Willie Munson, Dean of Students.

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 Hogle said Vice President Flemming is unable to attend the meeting due to illness. The first item he spoke about was teacher evaluations. He said he had spoken with Vice President for Student Affairs Roland Smith over the past week on this topic, and he informed the Senate that Carnegie-Mellon University has a teacher evaluation program where every class in the undergraduate core curriculum is evaluated and the results are published in a booklet. During registration, students pick up the teacher evaluation booklet along with their class schedules. He said the evaluations are tabulated at the end of the semester so that they can be published in time for the next semester.

President Hogle said that Freddie Saucedo, Director of External Affairs is writing to several other institutions to see if similar programs exist. He informed the Senate that he has a copy of the report of the undergraduate task force which recommended a teaching center in combination with the evaluation program in case an instructor received highly negative evaluations. President Hogle invited the Senate's ideas on this piece of legislation he was working on with Senator Sunderaj.

Senator Burns asked if these evaluations would be only for the core curriculum courses.

President Hogle said every class will be evaluated and reported back to its respective department, but as the University of Houston is so large, just the classes from the core would be published for student use in a booklet.

Senator Burns said she was interested in non-core courses as well and that every professor give the

students a chance to evaluate them.

President Hogle said this was already the case.

Senator Rosenberger voiced his concern over the fact that most instructors names are not printed in the class schedule.

Senator Burns said that using ScanTron in a method of evaluation was not comprehensive enough. She also said that most prescribed textbooks were not good.

President Hogle said these issues can be discussed when the legislation is introduced and goes to committee.

President Hogle mentioned Core Curriculum revisions next. He said the Undergraduate Studies Catalog is now in the process of being revised and it would be a good idea to add a requirement in multi-cultural awareness. He said both houses of the Texas State Legislature passed a resolution in May encouraging more diverse cultural requirements in college curricula. He read this resolution out to the Senate and said it was a very strong argument for multicultural awareness. He said he had met with the head of the African-American Studies program-Dr. Lee, and had also met with the head of the Mexican-American Studies program-Dr. Mindiola in conjunction with this project. President Hogle informed the Senate of his meeting with Dr. Baptiste, Director of the Educational Leadership and Cultural Studies program. President Hogle said he was working on legislation now and would present it at the next Senate meeting. He said SA should work on this idea and call for a task force with a deadline before the next Undergraduate Studies Catalog. He said he will meet with Dean Pickering with regard to legislation on the Asian Studies Program being developed by Senator Nguyen. He said the Dean was very interested in an Asian Studies Program as mentioned in the Executive Summary of the six year plan. President Hogle said President Bush would be visiting the campus on July 11th and many are optimistic about getting the Bush Library on campus. If this is the case then another building in the area concerning International Studies or Public Affairs would receive high priority. 'The library has now gone to automated book recall' was the third issue in the President's report. He said the library would be charging a dollar per day if books which the library has recalled were returned late.

Senator Hasselbrink inquired if there was any limit on the amount the library could charge.

Senator Sharp asked how this fine would be indicated. President Hogle replied that it would probably be indicated by placing a stop on the registration records. Senator Eskridge asked if there was a process by which the library would contact the students. President Hogle said notices were sent out by the library by mail.

The next issue he spoke about was a proposal to raise the Service Fee ceiling to \$120 which was mentioned in previous Texas State Students Association legislation. He asked for three senators to voice their opinions on this matter.

Senator Grooms said this would be a bad move and that reprioritization of funds would be wiser.

Senator Burns was opposed to this move.

Senator Eskridge asked if there was a provision for inflation.

President Hogle said that there is a \$90 ceiling with no provisions for inflation.

Senator Grooms asked if the administration could push such a move on the students without prior consultation.

President Hogle said it probably could be done and had been done at UT-Austin.

Senator Rosenberger said he would be willing to support it if the administration did the same for the library etc.

Senator Eskridge asked if this would have the same effect as an increased arbitrary fee or would it reduce the likelihood of such fees.

Senator Berry said Dr. Munson would probably be the best person to answer such a question and yielded the floor to him.

Dr. Munson said that the administration could implement fees for specific services only. He said that students could negotiate this towards long term benefits for the students. Dr. Munson advised the students to do research into other institutions and evaluate UH's student fees in comparison to theirs. He informed the Senate of a mechanism at UT where an increase of over 10% has to be approved by the

student body.

Senator Grooms said that this is an odd time to be discussing an increase in student fees since SSFPAC had a surplus in its budget.

President Hogle spoke about the recent Student Needs Survey meeting. He said in previous surveys all groups were surveyed in the same way. Therefore, the final statistics were averaged out. He wanted this survey to be broken down to determine which groups of students were using which resources. President Hogle said that arrangements for the new SA discount card are complete. He said that Alexander Karsner and Co. will be producing the card again which will be called Platinum-the UH Discount Card.

President Hogle said the financial reports and estimated expenditures had been completed by Ryan Chadwick, the SA Treasurer. If there were no unexpected expenses SA should have about \$200 left at the end of the fiscal year.

Senator Burns asked if the binding machine purchased by the previous Senate was being used enough to justify its cost.

President Hogle said that it would be most used at the end of the year when the new Senate Journal would come out.

He said Freddie Saucedo, Director of External Affairs was working on the freshman and transfer orientations. He said the Senators are needed to help promote SA at the Activities Mart.

Senator Russell asked what the Activities Mart was.

President Hogle said it is an opportunity for SA to recruit newly entering students. He asked the Senators who wanted to help to contact Freddie.

President Hogle concluded his report by reminding the Senate of President Bush's visit to the campus on July 11th for the closing ceremonies of the Economic Summit.

5. Report of the Vice President:

The Vice President was unable to attend due to illness.

6. Report of the Speaker:

Speaker Burge told the Senate he regrets any inconvenience caused by the closure of the Senate Office during the last week. He told the senators the Senate Office's summer hours. He said the 27th Senate had received its first word from the President's office on legislation it had passed. He read out the letter from Interim President Magner (attached) which deals with UB27001, looking into the possibility of establishing a radio station on campus.

Senator Hasselbrink said he had the report which Dr. Magner mentioned in his letter in which a company named Radio Systems had conducted a feasibility study.

Speaker Burge said that President Hogle had received a letter from Dr. Magner's office updating SA on the action taken on legislation passed by the 26th Senate.

Commenting on the status of SR 26026, related to the fee structure of child care, the Speaker said Dr. Roland Smith would report back directly to the SA office. President Hogle said that the Faculty Senate would be setting up a committee to address this issue. Senator Burns asked if they might change the ruling to do away with hourly rates.

UB 26009 establishes a limited amount of of pass/ fail credit hours to be allowed outside a students major. Speaker Burge said this bill has been referred to the Undergraduate Council.

UB 26012 establishes a comprehensive recycling program. He said this had not yet been fully implemented and recycling had been established in some units only.

The Speaker said Dr. Magner had signed UB 26026, giving preference to the purchase of recycled products, with a clarification that the University must purchase on state contract if state funds are used. The Speaker said Dr. Magner had not signed UB 26030 which seeks to construct a handicapped entrance to E. Cullen due to financial considerations but that he is optimistic about finances soon being available.

UB 26031, abolishing writing proficiency examinations, had been referred to the Undergraduate Council.

Senator Berry informed the Senate that the Undergraduate Council would be meeting on July 9th and would discuss this.

Speaker Burge said Dr. Magner was not persuaded by the statements on UB 26032 which seeks to abolish the Freshman English Exit Exam. Dr. Magner had forwarded it to the English department for a response and would reply as soon as that is received. Speaker Burge encouraged the senators to work on format changes on this bill if it died.

He said UB 26035, mandating the inclusion of African-American studies within the cultural heritage requirement fulfilling courses of the core was being referred to the Undergraduate Council. He added that Dr. Magner wrote that the Undergraduate Council had recently approved the inclusion of two Afro-American courses as part of the cultural heritage component. The Speaker encouraged the senators to look at the full report in the SA office.

Speaker Burge said that Senator Wilkie had requested that Senator Berggren be nominated as the Vice Chair of the Committee on University Administration and Finance. Senator Grooms spoke in favor of the nomination. Supporting the nomination, Senator Richards said that Senator Berggren had already done a lot of work in conjunction with the committee. The nomination was put to a vote and approved. Senator Hasselbrink nominated Senator Sharp as the Vice Chair of the Committee on Student Life. He said Senator Sharp had done a lot of helpful research on the police protection bill. The nomination was put to a vote and approved.

Speaker Burge said he was scheduling an Executive Committee meeting for this Monday and asked the Chairs to get back to him on setting a suitable time.

7. Special Reports:

None.

8. One Minute Speeches by the Members:

Senator Burns asked that the senators engage in open dialogue on issues of concern.

Senator Grooms questioned the administration's motive in wanting to raise the student service fee when most units now have a surplus in their budget.

Senator Rosenberger said that his floor in Moody Towers had tried recycling and had run into problems. He encouraged Senator Hasselbrink and the Student Life Committee to look into this issue. Senator Grooms said Senator Rosenberger might want to consult the Residence Halls Association on this matter. Senator Hasselbrink said he was perturbed to find that two among five suggestions put by students in the SA suggestion boxes were racial in nature.

Senator Berry said it would be appropriate if in a future Special Report someone would speak to the Senate on the issue of the budget. He said Barnes and Noble has an \$800,000 surplus which goes into the general budget.

Senator Eskridge said he is doing research on various programs to recruit new students.

In relation to the issue raised by Senators Berry and Grooms, Senator Hasselbrink said the university should try and tackle finances at the source instead of attempting to 'plug the cracks.'

9. Reports of the Standing Committees:

1) *Academic Affairs:* Senator Burns, Chair of Academic Affairs said her committee had discussed UB 27006: REQUIRING THAT TEXTBOOKS PRICED MORE THAN FORTY DOLLARS BE PLACED IN THE M.D. ANDERSON LIBRARY FOR PUBLIC USE and had tabled it for further discussion. She said that Senator Berry's concern was the exorbitant cost of textbooks. Senator Berry said that in a lot of cases the professors are not aware of the cost of the books they prescribe for their courses. He said the notion that the Barnes and Noble bookstore is a private entity is not entirely true

and that UH splits a share of its profits.

Senator Grooms pointed out that this was an issue the Book store Advisory Committee could deal with. Senator Burns said it might be wise for professors to take only the the relevant chapters from expensive books and have them bound at Kinko's.

2) *Internal Affairs:* Senator Russell, Chair of Internal Affairs said her committee discussed the nomination of Eric Owens to Student Court. She said she would like the Senate to rescind its rejection of Mr. Owens from its April 30 meeting.

3) *Student Life:* Senator Hasselbrink said his committee discussed UB 27002: INCREASING POLICE PROTECTION, with a UHPD officer. He said the police officer informed him that they were already patrolling the inside of the campus. The officer said that most crime takes place on the perimeter of the campus. Senator Hasselbrink said his committee decided that the bill was not appropriate for the situatuin and instead suggested more call boxes. Senator Hasselbrink said they would report on UB 27003: MAKING UPDATED CRIME REPORTS EASILY ACCESSIBLE at the next Senate meeting. He said his committee was reporting favorably on SAR 27006: RECOGNIZING THE DIVERSE ETHNIC GROUPS ON CAMPUS BY NAMING A DAY IN THEIR HONOR and was reporting unfavorably on UB 27002.

4) *University Administration and Finance:* Senator Berggren, the Vice Chair said that they were reporting out favorably on UB27004: ESTABLISHING A UNIVERSITY STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY RELATIONS and UB 27005: CREATING A PLACE ON CLASS REGISTRATION FORMS FOR AN OPTIONAL DONATION TO THE UH LIBRARIES.

10. Report of the Select Committee:

None.

11. Special Orders:

None.

12. Unfinished Business and General Orders:

a) *Presidential Nominations and Appointments:*

None.

b) *Other Business and General Orders:*

Senator Berry moved to rescind the rejection of the nomination of Eric Owens as Student Court Justice. Senator Grooms asked if the nomination would be on the floor of the Senate if it is rescinded. Speaker Burge said it would be automatically referred to committee. Senator Russell said that interested senators could come and attend the Internal Affairs Committee meeting if the motion passed. The motion to rescind passed in a direct vote.

Senator Hasselbrink moved to consider UB 27002: A UNIVERSITY BILL INCREASING POLICE PROTECTION. Senator Berry spoke in favor saying that he was not criticizing UHPD but was asking that more be spent on it. As speaker against Senator Dockery said that he had seen officers patrolling the campus even at 2AM and had talked with one them for over an hour on the issue of security and said that we should not be concerned with increasing patrolling, but instead we should be concerned with changing the way the officers identify suspects. He cited a personal experience when he was pulled over by the police when he was moving into the F. yers. In general debate, Senator Grooms said he believed the bill was not researched enough. Senator Rosenberger said he agreed with the intent of UB 27002 but said that we need to know how much crime is going on by having up to date crime reports made more available to students. He said he felt reasonably safe on campus even at night, and noted that

crime was always going to exist on campuses. He said that while he was a desk assistant at the Towers he found that officers were doing a reasonable job of maintaining security. He felt that the frequency of crime was blown out of proportion. Senator Dockery said that unresearched bills should not be coming up before the Senate. President Hogle commended both Senator Berry and Senator Dockery on their efforts in getting information. He said that if the bill was meant to only to convey an idea it would be better to label it a resolution. Senator Berry said his points were being misconstrued and commended the police on doing a good job. He said all he was asking for was that the police department be given more assistance. He said that bill was only a first draft and he had hoped the committee would improve it. Senator Berry said the point he was trying to make was to address the problem as an issue. Senator Rosenberger requested a roll call which was approved by over one-fifth of the present and voting members. The roll call vote was as follows:

Senator Berggren	N	Senator Nguyen	N
Senator Berry	Y	Senator Richards	N
Senator Burns	Abstained	Senator Rosenberger	N
Senator Dockery	N	Senator Russell	N
Senator Eskridge	Not Present	Senator Sharp	N
Senator Floreani	Not Present	Senator Wilkie	Excused
Senator Gandhi	Not Present	Senator Zarka	Not Present
Senator Grooms	N	Senator Husain	Not Present
Senator Hasselbrink	N		

The bill failed.

Senator Grooms moved to consider SAR 27006: RECOGNIZING THE DIVERSE ETHNIC GROUPS ON CAMPUS BY NAMING A DAY IN THEIR HONOR. The bill passed after a direct vote. Senator Berggren moved to consider UB 27005: CREATING A PLACE ON CLASS REGISTRATION FORMS FOR OPTIONAL DONATIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LIBRARY SYSTEM. He spoke in favor saying it was well researched. Senator Sharp proposed an amendment to include " or five(5) dollars" in the first enacted clause. President Hogle spoke against it saying too many options would complicate the issue. Senator Sharp asked if there were going to be specific spots or would the students have to fill out the amount themselves. Senator Rosenberger suggested using ScanTron. Senator Burns suggested boxes to fill out the amount. President Hogle said he wanted something simple to make it more effective. Senator Rosenberger said a \$2 or \$5 option would be keeping it simple. Senator Sharp said that he supported the amendment as it was originally proposed. Senator Grooms suggested that the response of the students might be less if there were more than two options. The amendment passed. Acting on a request by President Hogle, Senator Grooms proposed an amendment to combine the 1st and 2nd *whereas* clauses. The amendment passed. Senator Burns proposed an amendment to delete 'her' in the 3rd *whereas* upon a request by President Hogle. The amendment passed. President Hogle asked that a senator propose an amendment in the 3rd *whereas* to read 'these donations would be specifically allocated to the library system' and the addition of another *whereas* clause to read 'Voluntary donations every semester by students would provide some relief to the libraries, draw constant attention to the status of the UH library system, and demonstrate to the UH administration that having a quality research library is a priority for students; therefore be it.' Senator Rosenberger proposed such amendments which passed in two separate votes. Senator Berggren introduced UB 27004: A UNIVERSITY BILL ESTABLISHING A UNIVERSITY STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY RELATIONS. Senator Grooms spoke in favor of the bill saying the amendments made by the UAF committee matched his original intent in writing the bill. President Hogle asked a senator to propose an amendment to strike out "by virtue of its nature as an 'Urban 13' school" from the first *whereas* clause. Senator Berry proposed an amendment to this effect. Senator Berggren said he had spoken with the director of the Metropolitan Volunteers Program-Lloyd Jacobson who expressed his support for this change to the bill. Senator Grooms explained the nature of

Urban 13 schools and said he hoped the amendment would be voted down. President Hogle said that in this specific situation its inclusion did not sound persuasive. The amendment passed. The bill passed after a direct vote.

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

a) *Presidential Nominations and Appointments:*

President Hogle nominated Maithao Nguyen to Student Court.

b) *Other Business and General Orders:*

None.

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

None.

15. **Comments and Announcements:**

Senator Rosenberger said that putting a restriction on the cost of books is an impairment to learning as it would limit material.

Senator Grooms encouraged President Hogle to attend committee meetings if he wished to propose extensive amendments.

Senator Sharp said police officers should be more visible.

Senator Berggren said there was information available at the UH police department on how not to look like a potential victim. He stressed the need for the department to increase accessibility of information.

President Hogle apologized for his absence at the UAF committee meeting and said that he had wanted the arguments to be as persuasive as possible.

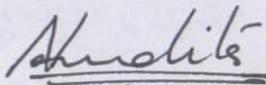
Senator Burns said that it was ironic that an officer who was supposed to be patrolling the campus talked to Senator Dockery for over an hour.

Senator Berry commended President Hogle on his letter to the senators asking for ideas. He said that special speakers ought to be invited to future Senate meetings.

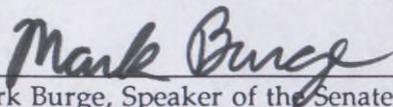
16. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by general consent at 9:15PM.

APPROVED AS AMENDED BY THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
HOUSTON STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION ON JUNE 18, 1990



Nandita Venkateswaran, Senate Secretary



Mark Burge, Speaker of the Senate