ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING MINUTES
October 22, 2018 | 4:00 PM | USUSA Senate Chamber

CALL TO ORDER AND THE SCOTSMAN

Approval of minutes: Senator Hall: Moved / Senator Olson: Second / Passed

PUBLIC FORUM

VP Smith: As you all have noticed, there is cake.

Senator Allred: It was my birthday. There’s some cake. Eat some.

Senator Olson: Motion to amend the agenda to sing Senator Allred Happy Birthday / Senator Thomas: Second / Passed

Senator Thomas - AOF

Senator Thomas: When you go to download this from the USUSA website, it downloads as a PDF so you have to have Adobe Acrobat Reader to type in it. It is a big hassle. We are looking into converting some of these things into an Excel sheet. There is going to be a lot of restructuring with the tables. We want to do an autosum with some of the totals. Under ‘Presentation to Allocation Committee’, I wanted to add to have it required to have the groups report back on their experiences to hold them more accountable for the money they were given.

Senator Lake: Would you have them come as a group or email?

Senator Thomas: Having them email the Admin is fine. I think it is a good way to hold them accountable as well.

Senator Kemp: I think having them email the Admin is fine but maybe the Senator who awards them the amount should also be the one who would follow up with them as well.

Senator Thomas: I changed all the contact information from Tim to Spencer. I started an Excel sheet and reformat these tables. They will ask for and define the specific information for each area and will calculate the percentages and the total trip cost automatically so it is standard across the board. It will clarify the percentages in those confusing areas.

Senator Olson: Why do we not cover travel to the airport? I don’t see why we don’t cover it.
Senator Wise: When I was securing funding to present my research, I applied through three different sources. AOF is the only one who doesn't cover transportation to the airport which makes things choppy.

Senator Allred: The one who presented with the funky numbers, he said that $30 was going to a shuttle, does anybody remember that? Do people have to clarify they will use it for travel to the airport?

Spencer: I believe that was at the location of the conference.

Senator Olson: If you make the whole expenses a spreadsheet and the fundraising totals a spreadsheet, that would make it more clear. The whole out of pocket contribution and 10% thing is a little confusing.

Senator Thomas: I think it needs to be reworded slightly. Same with the $100 University Contribution.

Senator Kemp: At the top of the Funding Information Budget page, I think it would be important to add what the out of pocket contribution is and define what some of those areas are and what counts for those areas. If we do keep something like that in there, I would reference the above definition in the table so they can find what it means by ‘Personal Contribution.’

Senator Thomas: I will keep you updated on this.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

VP Smith: There will be Capital & Support will be next Tuesday right after EC. It is basically like AOF but it is a little more broad, and doesn’t have to be academic specific. They send in an application and we sit on a board and we discuss if we want to give that money. If this is something you would like to be part of, let me or Jaren know. Student Advocate has posters out for the Expedition Vote for October 27th at 9:30am. They are having an election preview event. Daria wanted to thank you for everyone who helped with Homecoming. Aggie Night they had 340 couples and they sold out of the fast passes. All the money raised from that went to Aggiethon. Howl Volunteer Spreadsheet is out and they are asking for more help on Friday the 26th around 12-1. they would appreciate that. The mandatory volunteer meeting for the Howl is on the 24th. They request that if you get questions about the Howl, direct them all to Rachel. Athletics had 4,200 students at Homecoming game. Student athletes GPA is on the rise, this year the average is 3.238. They are trying to push the student first mentality, before they are an athlete, they are a student. The Cross Country team has the highest GPA. The Women’s Cross Country team has an average GPA of 3.78 and they are ranked 12th for that in the nation. Diversity week went well and this week is FSL Sexual Assault Prevention Campaign. Next Monday, is the ATCA Symposium it is free if you are interested. Diversity and Student Advocate are working on putting together a candidate's profile with information on all the candidates running in Utah. I have been working on the CITI statement of support. I met with Provost Galey and have a meeting set up with his wife. I have been working on getting a meeting with Robert Wagner who is the Vice Provost. This project will probably take me through the rest of the year. With that, I wanted to highlight the discussion of the relationship between AS and Faculty Senate. I think that our bodies should be interacting more than they are right now. In the Academic Senate Chambers, we have put all the Faculty Senate Executive Council members on that white board. There is a corresponding member from Faculty Senate Executive Council with your position. I am hoping that in the next month or so, you can set up a time to meet with that member so we can start building relationships.

Senator Lake: I sent out an email to those from CAAS on that committee and explained what the role of AS is and my support for the resolutions that Sierra and Kristin brought. I thought it was
professional and I am happy to forward that email to you. I will forward that email to all of you.

Senator Thomas: Kim Lott is one of my professors. I am really close with her and meet with her on a regular basis. She is in my college but my name wasn’t assigned to her but I am willing to chat with her.

VP Smith: I think it would be great to keep a log of people’s attitudes. I put sticky notes for who I have talked to and their reactions to the legislation and maybe other people they know who would be on favor of this legislation. I would invite you to do the same. This is a really cool opportunity could change the relationship for years to come.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Senator Hall & Senator Allred - ASR 2019-04: Mental Health Resolution

Senator Allred: This is the exact same resolution as Sam. The only change was to make it ASR-04.

Senator Wise: Motion to approve ASR 2019-04 as Second Reading / Senator Lake: Second / Passed

NEW BUSINESS

COUNCIL UPDATES

Senator Hall: I have been meeting with different professors and people from SAA about creating a undergraduate/graduate collaboration effort. I will probably have more detailed information about that in the next few weeks. We are giving a lot of input on the potential of moving the Grad School under the Provost office. The President said that could happen as soon as next semester or next school year.

Senator Lake: My council didn’t meet last week. We are planning a networking night and we are working with Daria on that. I am planning a ‘Slices with the Senator’ and have pizza. I want it to be an informal discussion about differential tuition and how fees are being used in CAAS. That will be in mid November. I went to an open house conference in Idaho Falls with Sophie. There were a lot of people interested in agriculture as well as people interested in CHaSS, Education, a couple in Engineering and one very excited student for the College of Arts.

Senator Wise: I met with my Dean after the Faculty Senate meeting. The Faculty Senator who was most in opposition is from my college and we talked about possible solutions there. My Associate Dean walked in at the end of that discussion. He felt like he had the same feeling. They are planning on pulling Matt Omasta aside and have a discussion with him about why they are in support and why he should be as well. I have been lobbying to a few of my professors who I am closest with, asking them to email Matt letting them know they are also in support. The five theater students who came to me about their concerns about the Faculty Code, Matt is their direct advisor and they are going to lobby to him as well. If we take a hands on approach, we can alleviate these stresses before our next meeting. Thanks for everyone who helped fund my AOF. It was a great opportunity to share my research. Additionally, I got a lot of business cards for those who would be interested in applying for the new Dean.

Senator Pitt: Thank you all for coming to the dinner last night. For those who didn’t come, you broke our hearts. We had our Differential Tuition Board meeting, we have 7 students who sit on that board. We met with those seven individuals on ideas on how we can improve transparency and concerns that students have. That was one of the things I ran for and I wanted to be accountable for what we have been able to accomplish. Our dean is willing to drop differential tuition for Summer internships. Students are getting credit for their Summer internships but no professor is getting paid for those internships. As soon as they are done with the school audit, they are willing to drop it to either the same as a lower level class or
dropping that fee all together. He is also working on the website so all the differential fee information is on the home page. We are hoping that will really improve transparency. We want to have an info booth in the business building that will be managed by different members of our council a couple times a week. This will have information for different events that are going on. Those who will be sitting at the booth will be trained on how to answer questions about differential tuition. We got permission to set up our own social media page for events going on in the school as well as upcoming deadlines for internship applications or jobs. We set up a town hall for November 12th so students can ask questions to department heads and administration. I have kind of restructured the Business Council organization. Each member is part of a team and each of those teams are over a chair. They asked me to sit on the USUSA chair and ask each of you of events you want to have collaboration with. I will share that with my council each month. I will reach out to you the first week of each month.

Senator Allred: This week we have QPR training on Thursday with Eriks Council. If your council members want to come, they are welcome. We are having a CHaSS Charity Gala on November 30th in the TSC Lounges. It is mocking Huntsman Gala and Black and White Jazz Night. Every cup is about a $1 and every drink will be customized to each department. That is how we will start raising money for our Student to Student Scholarship. I am meeting with Faculty Senators, Department Heads and Associate Deans for research. The tailgate for Homecoming went really well and the Dean was really happy about it. It was so sunny and warm the whole time until we finished packing up and then it started raining. It was a blessing. Cup of Joe with Joe is November 7th in the Old Main Lobby by the vending machines. We will have coffee, hot chocolate, cider and pumpkin chocolate chip cookies. Come talk with Joe, he’s a sweet man. I met with Joe and we want to engage Alumni more with students. We are thinking about putting a student spotlight in the email that goes out each month. I am creating a form where students can sign up to be highlighted and they will be selected to be the CHaSS Student of the Month. The CHaSS Senator page was updated and it is really cute so go look at it.

Senator Kemp: Loggers Ball is still in the works. I got my catering invoice, etc. I asked AS what a good way was to get my council more involved. Today, I emailed my council about the importance of coming to meetings. I redid my doodle poll and maybe that will help solve the problem. I am meeting with my Dean tomorrow. I contacted my representative for Fee Board and I don’t think she has added but we will be meeting this week.

Senator Thomas: The graphics for my week are finished ant will be sent out soon. We are going shopping for Education Week in 3 weeks from now. I am working with a council in the college to solidify some insurance and policies and structures for student teachers. There was a student teacher who was injured while student teaching. There is no clarification under any procedure as to how that will be covered. There was she is not technically employed by the school she is at or by the university. Does anyone know if your colleges have something like that for internships or field work?

Senator Wise: I know that through differential tuition, they had mandatory insurance you had to sign up for if you were leaving the state. I don’t know if it would be similar but you could look it up.

VP Smith: That sounds like something you could talk to our Student Advocate about.

Senator Service: I am meeting with my Fee Board Representative this Wednesday. Science Unwrapped is this Friday at 7. If you want to stop by before you go to the Howl, you can. We are picking up prizes this week for Science week.

Senator Olson: We have our Halloween Social this Friday in the Engineering Lab building from 4-6. I sit on the Calendar committee and last year they passed some restructuring of days. I sit on the Calendaring Committee and there have been a few changes. We don’t do the Monday on a Tuesday thing anymore. The graduation day in the Spring has changed. It is not on Saturday anymore, it is on Thursday and Friday.
Let all the people on your councils know that day had changed. There is a new schedule, be the lookout for that.

**ADVISOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Spencer:** Linda and Tim will be gone for the rest of this week. You can email them if you want but they are really busy. The Festival of Trees sign up is open. This is beneficial for the community and students. We donate 25-30 trees to Bear River Head Start and students through Access and Diversity. It is in events on the USUSA website. There is a prize for the winner and that can refund the cost for the decorations.

**Senator Pitt:** Do you have to buy the tree or do you decorate it?

**Spencer:** The tree ends up costing about $50 for us to buy but we ask for a $10 fee to hold the spot. You help subsidize the tree but we expect you to bring decorations for it. Everything goes to these families. It is for students who don’t travel home or families who live in Aggie Village. The volunteer meeting for the Howl is on Wednesday at 6pm. We miss everybody who went on the exchange and advise you to talk to Erik or Kristin if you want any information about that. I am also sorry for not attending the potluck last night. I will come next time, I promise.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Senator Thomas: **Moved** / Senator Pitt: **Second** / **Adjourned**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Spencer Bitner, VP Allie Smith, Senator Kristin Hall, Senator Dexton Lake, Senator Sierra Wise, Senator Cameron Pitt, Senator McKenna Allred, Senator Mason Kemp, Senator Deidra Thomas, Senator Abigail Service, Senator Erik Olson, Assistant Brooke Jorgensen, Jaxon Curtis