CALL TO ORDER

Approval of minutes: Senator Brost: Moved / Senator Ward: Second / Voting body: Passed

PUBLIC FORUM

Felicia Gallegos: First of all, welcome to the beginning of USUSA! I work for SAAVI, I’m the outreach and prevention officer. SAAVI stands for Sexual Assault and Anti-Violence Information Office if you’re not familiar with it. I’m here specifically to talk to you about the sexual misconduct survey that has been released. Who has received the email about it? Perfect. When we released it two years ago, we had a 48% response rate which is unheard of. It was so great because it really informed the direction that we went on campus. The consent campaign you see everywhere, Start by Believing, and Upstanding all came from the survey feedback we got last time. It’s really, really important that students are completing the survey and sharing their voices so that we can get an understanding of what’s happening on our campus as far as stalking, sexual assault, dating and domestic violence, and that we’re learning how people are responding to these situations and where they’re going for help. We have gathered all of the data from each college or the percentage of students from each college that have completed the survey and right now CHaSS is the leader with 29% completion. That’s still not enough. I am going to be sending you all an email to your senator email following this meeting with graphics that you can share to your college. The graphics will be showing the percentage of each college and general survey graphics. I will also have a draft email and if you could send it to professors, students, anybody that you can just saying that as their senator you encourage them to take the survey and why it’s important. We’re hoping pitting the colleges against each other will get a higher response. Today the College of Engineering and CHaSS have both posted about it. That’s all I have to say, I just wanted to let you know before I sent the email out to you. Please encourage that. I encourage you to take it. It’s just survey.usu.edu. Any questions? Thank you!

Josh Johnson: I just want to present to you guys quickly. I know you had an opportunity to vote on your upcoming financial audit for the next year and there were a couple of different increases on there. One of them was the Diversity Director’s increase in stipend. I want to give you a little bit of background as to why I put forth that amount of money and where it’s going to. After talking with Kevin, there was a slight edit that he was correct on, so I’ll bring that up as well. A little bit of background: our Organizations and Diversity Vice President now is Jenny Patino and then there are four positions that are under her — the Clubs Director, Diversity Director, Clubs and Diversity Liaison, and International Student Ambassador. Of those four, three of them are current stipend. The fourth one, International Student Ambassador, is not
currently stipend. It’s a position that I created during my tenure. You’ll all be getting their different charters giving you all of their different responsibilities. The Clubs Director has the most. The reason we wanted to target that Clubs Director having $1,000 per semester increase (some have said they’ll be walking away with the $1,300 and they won’t, they’ll just have that $1,000) is because they’ll have more responsibilities. You need to understand a little bit more about what they cover. The ‘why’ behind creating this position? As Organizations and Diversity VP, there are two main branches that you oversee: obviously organizations and diversity. The diversity side is everything from multicultural students, our queer-affiliated students, nontraditional, international students, et cetera. One of the duties of the VP is to oversee specifically international students’ success. There are a lot of other duties that I’m about to show you, but international student success becomes very difficult if and when there’s not an extra person to help which is why we created that position. The programs that are sponsored underneath that office deal primarily with two main groups which is the Council of Student Clubs and Organizations, or CoSCO for short, and Diversity Cabinet. CoSCO would be headed up by the Organizations Director, so the Clubs Director. They are also going to be in charge of the Portal, so all of the clubs that are listed on the website – how to get in contact with them, their upcoming events, and their funding requests – would all go through the Clubs Director. Obviously the Diversity Cabinet is on the other half of that. So a couple of the duties of the VP: these [referring to list on slides] are just some of the committees university-wide that the Diversity VP sits on. It’s a lot to do for one person, and that’s not to mention these [referring to list on slides] programs and events that are put on. The Organizations and Diversity VP puts on a Diversity Week in the fall. They’re also asked to put on Aggie Fest, the involvement fair, in the spring, and that’s more on the organization side which is something the Clubs Director helps out with. They’re also asked to, as I said, head up the clubs portal and help out with the annual, university-wide organizations reregistration. I want to hit on this really quickly; that’s important because it is now university-wide. If you’re a USUSA club, ADC, FSL, Campus Rec, anything else, you all have to reregister each year. That’s because of a settlement that occurred over this last summer from an incident that took place back in 2014. It was a shame that the event happened, but the settlement is enabling us to be protected and take care of our students on a much more personal level. Because of that, that would also go into the responsibilities of that clubs director.

Senator Dent: Could you explain a little bit about that settlement? We’ve heard a lot about it but not actually what happened.

Josh Johnson: Sure. In 2014, a then-member of a fraternity on campus sexually assaulted another individual on this campus. Neither of them were in school at the time, however the result was that the ensuing law suit implicated a lot of different parties one of those being the University. As a result we have now Ms. Paige Eidenschink who is the FSL advisor. We also have this reregistration and a lot more stringent rules for fraternities and sororities across the campus. It’s actually something that I, as a fraternity man, fully endorse, but it requires a lot of university-wide support. Does that answer your question?

Senator Dent: Yes, thank you.

Josh Johnson: Like I said, these are all the different responsibilities of just the VP, and it becomes very taxing whenever you don’t have more equitable involvement. The problem is that the position of Organizations and Diversity VP should be two separate positions: Organizations as one, Diversity as the other. There are a couple different snags that come up whenever we approach that problem and we’ll get
into the why of that in a couple more slides, but what this increase does is it allows the clubs branch to develop more so that Jenny can have the opportunity to develop the diversity side. So, since there are four director positions, the $1,000 increase would go directly to just the clubs director, $1,000 in the fall, $1,000 in the spring, and the remaining $900 a semester would go to the other three positions. Effectively you’d have two that would be oriented towards clubs and two that would be oriented toward diversity. This is all intentional because it allows the position to grow and it allows it to be separated in the near future so that way when those dividing lines come through the charter and say, “This is more towards organizations, this is more towards diversity,” there will actually be the funding there to fund that incoming Organizations VP as well as the Diversity VP. So, what are the next steps for this separation to work? The $2,000 increased stipend would need to be approved by your combined bodies, Academic Senate and Executive Council. Over the next year or so Jenny Patino will need to continue growing the position. It's something that I worked very hard on and beefed up the charter like crazy and she’s already started doing that. We have the difficult task of finding some space and finding some money – where to house them, and are they getting their stipends and scholarships? Finally it needs to pass legislation with two-thirds vote and then that will go to a vote for the majority of the students. That’s really where you come in is with the top and the bottom: the support for increasing that $2,000 and also passing the vote whenever it comes to your bodies. Why haven’t we already done this? Can I have you hop in real quick, Linda, kind of addressing quorum?

Linda Zimmerman: Are you talking about this particular...?

Josh Johnson: Yeah so if we had both of these positions separated what that would be like.

Linda Zimmerman: So prior to my role here they were separated and this came from Dr. Olsen and they just didn’t feel like there was enough to do between the two and so they combined it into one. When I came they also combined the Academic Senate President’s duties; we dissolved that position and the Executive Vice President and the Student Advocate VP took those. We looked, as advisors, over it, making sure everybody has equal loads. Josh has come in and done just an incredible job growing the clubs with these changes as well as really focusing a lot on diversity. We have talked about where we’d house this person if we split them: it’s going to be something that we definitely will get at again this year, and as we talk about budgets that would be another thing to figure out budgets between all of them and maybe keep track of what we’ve done this year and in the past on that.

Josh Johnson: There was already so much to do this last year that honestly it became overwhelming which is why that fourth position was created. It’s only going to become more and more overwhelming as the years go on because of the settlement as well as because of our increased focus and belief in diversity and organizations.

Senator Karras: You just said that it’s going to continue to expand. How do you see, in three years versus next year, how this position would stand?

Josh Johnson: Specifically the Vice President’s position?

Senator Karras: Sure. In creating a new position there will be a little bit of crossover in responsibility I assume, but you said this is a position where responsibility would continue to grow because of the settlement. How is it going to be different one year from now versus three
Josh Johnson: it will continue to grow in the sense that it will be more of a cross-collaborative effort. The Organizations and Diversity VP currently has a lot of reach as far as what falls underneath the umbrella. In the previous slide there was a lot that talked about fee oversight. Jenny’s current position oversees campus recreation fee, TSC policy fee, as well as a third one, and that’s just for the organization. That’s not to mention the administrative Diversity Council that exists, Aggies Think Care Act (which is where the Diversity VP sits) as well as the athletics, minority, and general council. As we continue on both sides, since it’s one of President Cockett’s big initiatives to increase diversity at USU, those jobs are going to keep getting bigger. There’s going to be more. Then, as you said, on the organizations side: because they’re reregistering every single year, we’re hoping that can be streamlined on the technological front but as of right now it’s not feasible for one office to do.

Are there any further questions?

Senator Brost: How much money currently is allotted to this position, including the officers below Jenny?

Josh Johnson: As it currently stands, the four positions that fall underneath Jenny (Clubs Director, Diversity Director, and Clubs and Diversity Liaison each get $300 in stipend money a semester. The fourth position gets noting, it’s all pro-bono. By increasing the stipend, what you’d be doing is giving $1,000 a semester to the Clubs Director and then that $300 would shift over.

Senator Karras: So, four positions would be the proposed. Why isn’t it four $300 positions? Why the increase?

Josh Johnson: Great question. That goes back to the purpose of growing it so it can break off. In the same sense we want to give the Clubs Director more responsibilities. For our Graduate Studies Senator, you have a Graduate Studies Director that receives $1,000 a semester; the PR and Marketing Assistant Director also receives $1,000 a semester. By giving them an increased stipend, we’re just implying that we’re requiring more of them. Since we’re already at the point of requiring more of this director position, it makes sense to beef up the stipend now not only for them but then also so that down the road, when you are finally able to split this position in half, that can just start running automatically instead of from the ground up.

Senator Karras: So, this Diversity Ambassador is created now, so now there are currently going to be those four positions. That $300 that was the Clubs and Diversity Director’s. That $300 from that Clubs and Diversity is going to the Diversity Ambassador, $1,000 is going to go to Clubs and Diversity?

Josh Johnson: To the Clubs Director.

Senator Karras: Alright.

Josh Johnson: Does that make sense?
Senator Karras: If we’re creating a whole other position and increasing money, I’m still trying to see the need. If you’re adding a whole other position, I’m wondering if that other position can’t carry some of the load of Clubs and Diversity and so I’m failing to see the need for both. I’m sure it is there, I just need a better understanding of it to see the need.

Senator Ward: I was just wondering if I understand it correctly and could maybe also help to clarify. The way I understand it, or the way you explained it, is that eventually we want to get to the point where we can separate Organizations and Diversity Vice President, right? So by increasing the stipend for the Clubs Director and giving them more responsibilities, we’re laying a foundation. The way I understand it is that by increasing the stipend and giving the clubs director more responsibilities we’re preparing that position to become its own VP position, whereas the Organizations and Diversity VP would eventually become just Diversity VP?

Josh Johnson: Yes.

Senator Ward: Okay.

Josh Johnson: I know that it sounds so convoluted and believe me: being in that position last year convoluted doesn’t begin to describe it. There are so many inner workings and goings-on. Just to go over it one more quick time: the Clubs Director, Diversity Director, and Clubs and Diversity Liaison as it currently stands only receive $300 in stipend money each semester. This position, which I created, receives $0. By approving this increase, the Clubs Director will receive $1,000 per semester and then that remaining money that’s already there will go to these three positions per semester. More specifically to the question that you just raised, Senator, is that it will allow the International Student Ambassador and the Diversity Director to focus primarily on the side of diversity. It would then allow the Clubs Director and Clubs and Diversity Liaison, whose title I assume would be restructured, to make up the clubs committee to lead the CoSCO and the other 90+ clubs that fall under USUSA every single year, as well as the portal, as well as the reregistration, as well as the clubs funding, and collaboration.

Senator Dent: I think this makes sense. When comes to the plans of separating organizations and diversity, as far as logistically and reasonably, would that be possible? To split those? Do you see that happening in the near future?

Josh Johnson: I personally do. It’s something that’s been brought up the last couple of years and in previous years there wasn’t as much growth but now, because of how much we’ve been able to grow it this last year, if it doesn’t continue to prosper it will falter in which case anyone and everyone who runs for that position in the future will be setting themselves up to fail. That’s not at all what I want, that’s not the reason I grew it in the first place. I grew it so that it could be split in half and, like I said, we already have things in motion so that that can happen.

Senator Bird: I understand and see the reasoning for this; they do a lot of work and they deserve that size of stipend. Why would the Clubs Director and Diversity Director not have the same amount?

Josh Johnson: Great question. That goes back to what Senator Ward hit on: we want the Organizations and Diversity VP to be able to focus more on the diversity side, whereas the Clubs Director focuses more on the clubs side so that way that split does happen--
Senator Bird: So, they already have that?

Josh Johnson: Yes.

VP Lake: This is going to be our last question because we do have an Academic Opportunity Fund at 4:45.

Senator Chamberlain: I don’t know if this is maybe more directed towards Linda, but you said previously it was separate and then combined into one because they didn’t have enough. Has it grown enough?

Linda Zimmerman: It’s grown, and really this year is probably the largest growth we’ve seen.

VP Lake: I’m going to ask a favor of you, Josh, to put your contact at the end of this and then send it to Sophia so that it can be distributed to us. I’ll leave it to the senators: if you have any more questions or any more input, contact Josh or VP Patino to get clarification on that. Remember also that at our August retreat we will be making a final decision about whether or not we’re going to allocate that money for that position, so be sure you’re informed.

Mitchell Clover: This is about analytics in general, but we also have the option to table it for another week if you prefer that. What we have to say is going to take about 15 minutes and there could be questions following that so if we need to table it we’re happy to do that and respect your time or other items you may have to address today.

VP Lake: The only problem is that this is our last meeting before the end of the year.

Mitchell Clover: Fair enough. So is this the outgoing?

VP Lake: This is the incoming.

Mitchell Clover: But it’s your last one?

VP Lake: Right, we only do one.

Mitchell Clover: We’ll be with Executive Council tomorrow and then this group can hear about it in the fall.

VP Lake: If that’s ok let’s do that. I’ll relay the information so that they have a knowledge of it tomorrow after Executive Council and then you’re welcome to come back.

Mitchell Clover: That’s excellent. I’ll just give you the two-minute version. How many of you went to the President’s Truth in Tuition? Great. So, for those that weren’t there, President Cockett and Jaren went through a lot of details about how tuition will be increasing, or at least that’s her recommendation that tuition increase a certain amount. A good portion of that increase is to pay for what’s called student analytics and I direct what’s called the Center for Student Analytics here at Utah State. It’s a new center that was created in 2018. We do a lot of different work to help the university optimize itself on behalf of students. We use data not so much to look at student behaviors but to look at ways that student behaviors interact in meaningful ways with what we offer as an institution. We offer a lot of great
programs through SILC, through USUSA, all the different colleges offer their own programs... CHaSS has
the writing center and there’s a science writing center that is through the College of Science and through
CHaSS. There are these different opportunities that students have to do all these different things—even
athletic things and dances and Mardi Gras—and we look at student participation in those various
programs and services and we try to determine how we are doing as a university in terms of helping
students thrive and flourish academically, socially, and co-curricularly. Our data actually ends up being
really valuable to the institution and we want you guys to understand that value as students who help our
services exist. We feel like it’s really important, especially as student leadership, that you have an
opportunity to really understand what we’re doing with that dollar-for-dollar investment in analytics but
also how that can return to you as a student through optimization of the university and for you to ask
questions and even shape the process of the things that we do. We’ll come back in the fall, but tomorrow
we are in Executive Council and we’ll get that update and then forward it through you.

VP Lake: Perfect. Thank you for being understanding.

Mitchell Clover: No problem. Thank you so much for you time. I should mention I’m joined today by Eric
Dickamore. He’s an undergraduate research assistant in our center. I want to acknowledge that he’s here;
he does good work for us.

VP Lake: Thank you.

Spencer Bitner: I’ll just add right now: they’ve been doing numbers based off current student body
officers and past student body officers and our events and those sorts of things and it’s actually really
encouraging for the things that you are accomplishing.

Mitchell Clover: A preview is that USUSA works at keeping students enrolled in USU.

Spencer Bitner: Statistical data!

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

VP Lake: Now we’ll move on to the President's Report. I’m going to explain each thing as we go through.
President’s Report is an opportunity for me to give a quick summary of Executive Council, anything
President Ahmed would have me give you, and an update about what I’m doing. I won’t dwell on
Executive Council too much because you’re free to read the minutes (and I feel like you need to do that
rather than me read it to you, you’re all big kids and I feel like we’re all capable of reading the minutes) so
I won’t dwell on that too much. I’ll just dwell on the points that I feel are pertinent, but because that
doesn’t exist, we haven’t had a meeting, I won’t give you an update on Executive Council, nor does Sami
have much that he wanted me to relay to you. I did want to tell you that I did bring your name plates in
for you today, but it is your responsibility to bring those in for each meeting. It just maintains
professionalism we that’s what we do. And you’re not required to sit where you currently are, but we do
sit in the semicircle formation. Also, minutes and agendas will be sent out promptly after the meeting
when Anna gets them done. We encourage her to have those done between 24 and 48 hours. Make sure
you read those. If there’s anything of error in the minutes, the time before we approve the minutes is to
make those edits. You do have an Academic Opportunity Fund today and I’m more than happy to sit in
and guide you through it if you have any questions. I will probably do that. If you don’t have any, if you
don’t ask, I’m not going to contribute, but I’m happy to be here if you would like.
Senator Chamberlain: Did you say you’re going to email the Executive Council minutes too?

VP Lake: Yes, both parties get both minutes and agendas.

Assistant Kremnev: Brooke is willing to sit in on the Academic Opportunity Fund if you’d rather.

VP Lake: We’ll both be here. Thank you for that question and thank you as well. That should be it for my update (as far as President’s Report goes) except that we don’t have our training tomorrow. There is one next Tuesday, which will be our last training, so please be aware of that. Instead of tomorrow, please attend Miss USU if you have the availability to do so.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

VP Lake: We’re going to go through the approval of language to be added to your charters. This has been approved already as far as wordage goes at Executive Council and the Senate, these just need to be added into your charters. Is that right, Brooke?

Brooke Jorgensen: It has to be approved. The legislation was passed but these changes haven’t been made to the charters.

VP Lake: Oh, because they weren’t given to us the last time we did this. Thank you for that correction. These were approved as far as language goes but we do have to vote and approve this to be added into everybody’s charters. The first one is about diversity training.

“All officer charters will change under the “Duties” section to reflect the following: (These changes have been approved and added to the Graduate Studies Senator Charter, some officers have added some of these individually, but this will ensure that all officer charters have these changes and the wording is consistent)

1. Officer will ensure that every member of their council or committee receive the opportunity to be QPR trained through an office sponsored training during the fall semester of the academic year.

2. Officer will ensure during the fall semester that every compensated member of their council or committee will receive the Student Leader Diversity Training (or for uncompensated council/committee members, they will be given the opportunity to receive said training) through the USUSA Organizations and Campus Diversity VP.

3. Officer will be required to be Upstander trained and ensure that every member of their council or committee receive the opportunity to be trained during the fall semester of the academic year.”

These trainings, particularly the QPR, you will be trained on in a training. Are we doing that next week?

Linda Zimmerman: No.

VP Lake: Well, eventually you’ll be trained. QPR trainings are available for large bodies through the
university during the fall semester, so it’s easy to accomplish, it’s just a matter of doing it. Senator Dent?

Senator Dent: What is QPR training?

VP Lake: Question, persuade, respond.

Senator Scott: Refer.

VP Lake: Refer, thank you. Question, persuade, refer. It is a training on how to be aware of somebody around you that may be thinking of suicide. How many of you have been QPR trained before? It is a very very well put-together training.

Let’s vote to approve this. I would like to motion to approve this to be added to our charter.

Approval of language: Senator Fry: Moved / Senator Karras: Second / Voting body: Passed

VP Lake: This is now about USUSA Student Sustainability and Climate Crisis Resolution. It’s been passed, this just needs to be added to your charters as well.

“All Senator charters, excluding the Graduate Studies Senator, will change under the “Duties” section to reflect the following:

Appoint a single representative from the [Insert College] to sit on both the Blue Goes Green grant selection committee”

Which is already in the charter

“and the USUSA Student Sustainability Taskforce.”

It can be the same student if you want, but it doesn’t have to be. It’s just a matter of choice. Is there anybody with questions? Alright. Is there any other discussion?

Approval of language: Vice President Lake: Moved / Senator Karras: Second / Voting body: Passed

VP Lake: Thank you everybody.

NEW BUSINESS

VP Lake: We need to go through the Senate Pro Tempore changes. We’re going to hold that election today as well. It’s one of my requirements in my charter to have it accomplished. We found that this Pro Tempore position was double-dipping over into what the Administrative Assistant was supposed to accomplish. I’m going to just read the charter changes really quick. There were some committees that, to our knowledge, hadn’t been in place, and it was really redundant in some of these things. We pretty much just made the Senate Pro Tempore a little easier. I’ll read through it really quick because I’m sure that you really want to know, and I want you to know in case you want to nominate yourself for this position.

“SENATOR PRO TEMPORE
The role of the USUSA Student Government is to enhance the quality of student life through: 
academics, activities, student concerns, public relations, service, athletics, clubs and 
organizations, cultural events. This will also be done through individual college, extension, 
graduate, and legislative student representation.

Charter

I. Duties:

1. Assume all responsibilities assigned by the Executive Vice President.

2. Assume all duties of the Executive Vice President whenever the President designates or is 
   absent.

3. Serve as Parliamentarian for USUSA Academic Senate.

4. Serve as a member of the USUSA Academic Senate and any committees, sub-committees or 
   boards as identified in the USUSA General Laws and Charters.

5. Oversee the maintenance of the on-line Academic Opportunity Fund.

6. Work with the USUSA Administrative Assistant to incorporate policy changes from the Academic 
   Senate into the General Laws and review the General Laws for grammatical or editorial errors.

7. Rules governing Senator Pro Tempore election (ASB 06-13), impeachment (ASB 06-04), interim 
   Senate Pro-Tempore (ASB 06-05), Voting representation (ASB 06-06), and Senate Pro-Tempore 
   replacement (ASB 06-07) are in effect and should be reviewed by the Pro Tempore.

8. Continue to fulfill all duties previously assumed as an elected college senator and as outlined in 
   their respective charter.

9. Officer will adhere to university, divisional and departmental fiscal policies and procedures.

II. Committee Assignments:

1. USUSA ad-hoc committees as appointed

2. Tuition Review Committee

3. Sophomore Scholarship Committee Member”

Spencer Bitner: Do you have the original version of this? Technically this group should vote off of 
these changes.

VP Lake: Right, that was my next step.

One thing that was added that you need to be aware of is that when you are the Senate Pro Tempore you 
do not sit on the Facilities Enhancement Committee because we have two senators that sit on the Tuition
Review Committee—one is appointed by me (and I’ve already made that appointment, provided that person isn’t the Senate Pro Tempore) and then the Senate Pro Tempore also sits on that—and the rest of you senators will sit on the Facilities Enhancement Committee. To show you what I took out and edited: all senators sit on the Classroom Improvement Fund already so I felt that was redundant; the Administrative Assistant chairs [the Academic Opportunity Fund] committee and so “supervise” is redundant and would create confusion; the Sophomore Scholarship Committee has been changed around a lot with the use of AwardSpring, but we kept the committee and we just decided to add it in to continue to clarify that they’re a member of that committee; we couldn’t find the Advising Working Group anywhere and no other senator (to our knowledge) sits on that Advising Working Group. The last time this charter was revised was 2017, two years ago, so we wanted to make sure that there’s clarity about what the Senate Pro Tempore. Now up here I changed this:

“Act as a steward of the USUSA Classroom Improvement Fund and the USUSA Sophomore Scholarship Fund, completing and managing all administrative work and generally overseeing these funds as dictated by the Executive Vice President.”

We felt like that was the responsibility of the Administrative Assistant, so that was the only thing changed.

Spencer Bitner: Did you take out number five [“Oversee the maintenance of the on-line Academic Opportunity Fund and Sophomore Scholarship applications.”] also?

VP Lake: No, that was still in there. Just helping the Administrative Assistant with the form, which we did edit last year.

With a more simplified charter, I will entertain a motion to approve these few charter changes.

Approval of changes: Senator Fry: Moved / Senator Lyons: Second / Voting body: Passed

VP Lake: Thank you everybody. I’ll send that over to Assistant Kremnev and she’ll update the website. Now we are going to hold Senate Pro Tempore elections. It’s in my charter that those be done in our first Academic Senate meeting, so now that you know the responsibilities of the Senate Pro Tempore, are there further questions about the Senate Pro Tempore?

Senator Chamberlain: Do they sit on the faculty senate? I thought that was discussed earlier.

VP Lake: They don’t.

Senator Chamberlain: Sorry, the Stater’s Council?

Linda Zimmerman: They do.

VP Lake: That needs to be added in there.

Linda Zimmerman: Let me pull up Stater’s Council policy because it could be that Senator Olsen had lots of legislation which is why he was always there.

VP Lake: That’s a good question because it wasn’t in the original so that’s something we need to add in there.
While she’s pulling that up, are there any other questions? The biggest thing that you’d be doing is sitting on the Tuition Review Committee and not on Facilities Enhancement and being the parliamentarian for Academic Senate and then any other responsibilities assigned to you. It doesn’t pay any more if that’s anybody’s question.

Senator Bird: Is that the biggest difference?

VP Lake: That’s the biggest thing. The Tuition Review Committee is a newly reformed committee. It used to be called Tier II Tuition because there used to be Tier I and Tier II tuition, and then when the state of Utah did away with the idea of the two tiers it just became the Tuition Review Committee. The way I understand it is that they advised President Cockett and President Cockett advised with them as to what they felt were going to be appropriate reasons to increase tuition, so if you feel passionate about that you might consider nominating yourself for this position. I will inform you right now that there is one other appointment for a senator on that committee that I make, and it is Senator Dent who’s been appointed to that committee. I felt like she’d be a great candidate for that and that’s in no way singling out anybody because we also need senators who are very aware of the need for improvement of facilities, which is the alternate committee that everybody else sits on. For your information, we, just a couple weeks ago, approved our first round of Facilities Enhancement Fund. It was a new fund this year. We have more of a structure of how we’re going to do that next year, so we’ll start obtaining those late October to early November.

Senator Fry: Do you know the timing of those meetings? Are they weekly or are they monthly?

VP Lake: They weren’t even monthly, they were on an as-needed basis. That’s a good question. For instance, as far as your committee assignments go, some of you sit on Parking and Transportation. I know Senator Brost does, I think Senator Lyons does, I think Natural Resources does as well, Senator Chamberlain, as well as a couple vice presidents. I sit on that committee. In January you’ll get an email saying, “This is when we’re meeting.” You have to be considerate of the committee’s schedule and it’s nothing that you really dictate. They’ll have it with or without you.

Any other questions? While Linda’s pulling that up we can hold voting. We’ll find out about whether or not there is an increase in payment.

Linda Zimmerman: It’s $2,800.

VP Lake: Okay, so there’s no increase in funding. Did you have another question, Senator Fry?

Senator Fry: I would be fine to self-nominate.

VP Lake: There’s one. Is there anyone else who would like to self-nominate?

Senator Ward: I would.

VP Lake: So, we have Senator Ward. Is there anyone else?

Senator Lyons: I self-nominate.
VP Lake: Senator Lyons. Anyone else? I’d also like to nominate Senator Brost.

We’re going to give you each a minute to give the reason why you feel like you’d be best for this position with the considerations in mind (the big ones being the Tuition Review Committee and parliamentarian) so think of that for a second, and then we’ll give you each a minute to vote. We’re going to ask Senator Lyons to allow us to borrow his paper so that we can do a paper ballot rather than a by-the-hand. Will you start handing those out, Senator Karras?

Senator Karras: Just senators vote?

VP Lake: Yeah and I’ll be tiebreaker if we need it.

Because Senator Fry nominated himself first we will start with you Senator Fry. One minute.

Senator Fry: Because of my accounting major I’ve worked in a lot of departments on campus in their acct departments. In those positions I reviewed a lot of the different tuition payments and tuition payments for indexes so I’m familiar with the process of setting guidelines for tuition with the department. As far as parliamentary procedure, I’ve served in a lot of councils in the accounting department and I’m familiar with the Pro Tempore process.

Senator Ward: As far as Tuition Review Committee, a lot of my experience with that lies with my experience with the Statesman: covering those topics, gathering student input from all across the university, and how people feel about tuition. As far as managing student money, I’ve worked in housing for the last two years where we manage student money to plan events (which is much smaller scale but still fairly similar in how you manage student’s money and make sure it’s all being used intentionally). As far as parliamentary procedure, I’m fairly familiar with it as we use it in Kappa Delta meetings. We don’t currently use it in CHaSS council meetings, but I’m fairly familiar with it.

Senator Brost: As far as parliamentary procedure goes, I was super involved in FFA through pretty much my whole life and I’m very familiar with parliamentary procedure and how it works. As far as the tuition side goes, I’m pretty familiar with tuition and the importance of having student input when it comes to tuition. In the College of Agriculture there was a lot of discussion about differential tuition and tuition in general last year, so I feel like I’m pretty well-versed as far as recognizing what students need and the benefits that come with from tuition increases. Money-wise: I grew up on a farm and I’ve had my own business since I was a sophomore in high school. I’m pretty good at looking at the overall of where money should go, where it needs to go, where it’s going to be best benefited.

Senator Lyons: As far as parliamentary procedure, I really don’t have that much experience (being honest with everybody); it’s something that I really want to look into more, though. I have plans to get more involved with USSA, so I’m going to get to find out as much as I can about it. As far as tuition committees go, I’m really interested to see that tuition’s being spent the right way. I feel like it’s a really big deal for students and I’m honestly really involved in that. I also worked to help oversee a couple dozen cars and housing for a few hundred people, so I feel like I understand how to manage large sums of money.

VP Lake: Perfect. With that being said, please take a minute to write down your nomination and then fold it just in half. We have Senator Fry, Senator Ward, Senator Brost, and Senator Lyons. Fold it in half and Spencer will come around and grab them. The Senate Pro Tempore does not sit on Stater’s Council.
Linda Zimmerman: So you write a resolution and sometimes your body has to go to Stater’s Council which really consists of the President and her Executive Council (which is vice presidents and deans throughout the university) and they along with Executive Council or whoever is presenting, whoever wrote that resolution, and they discuss it and they will give an approval or a disapproval before it goes on, whether it needs to go to faculty senate or the students or whatever other body it would need to go to. It’s an approving body from the President and her Executive Board.

Senator Scott: Is there a student that sits on that council?

Linda Zimmerman: All of Executive Council sits on it.

VP Lake: Does this need to be won by half or by two-thirds?

Linda Zimmerman: Majority.

VP Lake: In that case, Senator Brost is the new Senate Pro Tempore. Thank you everybody for your votes and for those who nominated themselves, that’s very nice of you to do. For your information, as well as senator fry, you already sit on the Tuition Review Committee as Graduate Senator. Again, just so you know, now that that has been clarified everybody, with the exception of Senator Brost and Senator Dent will be sitting on the Facilities Enhancement Committee.

COUNCIL UPDATES

VP Lake: Now we’ll move on to council updates. This is the time for you to discuss what you have accomplished this week and what you feel is pertinent to the group. That could be any event that affect the whole group. If it’s just an event that’s mostly for your college you can mention it, but we would ask that you don’t dwell on it. It’s also to discuss your college weeks when those approach or any issues that you may have that you feel like we can counsel together. As a council, we’re expected to counsel together about any issues that may be arising between any of us in the sense of what’s going on in our individual colleges as well as anything that’s happening within USUSA. When you’re finished, it’s appropriate as far as order goes to say “I yield the floor” or “I yield” so that we know you are finished with your statement and then assistant Kremnev can move on in her minute taking. If you don’t have anything, you’re free to say, “I yield.” I’m sure a lot of you are figuring out who your councils are right now, you can just mention that and say I yield if that’s all you have going on.

Senator Fry: Last week I interviewed ten directors to see who would be my Graduate Director for the upcoming academic year. I have all of my council members except for one from the business school; I think we’re still waiting on one from there. I plan to announce the Director position this week at some point and that’s that. I yield the floor.

Senator Scott: It’s taken me a while to get the application out. I still haven’t, actually. I spoke with former Arts Senator Wise and she had a topic to bring up to the dean about providing perhaps a stipend for council members, so she advised me to hold off on positing that application until she had had the chance. Still haven’t heard back, so I’m just going to go ahead and post it hopefully today or tomorrow. That’s pretty much the only progress I’ve made so far.
VP Lake: Who is that stipend for?

Senator Scott: Arts Council members.

I yield.

Senator Ward: Applications for CHaSS Council are open and they will close next Monday, so if any of you have friends in CHaSS that are looking to be involved, let them know. If the Qualtrics link is having problems (as it always does) then tell them to just hit me up and I will try and fix it. I yield.

Senator Dent: We had our interviews last week. We had over 65 applicants for our council which was so cool. It was pretty competitive, though, so we had about 20 interviews. I’m super excited about council for next year. We have really good applicants. In response to Senator Fry: we have a rock star who will be on the Graduate Council, so I’ll let you know by Wednesday when that’s finalized. This past Friday we held a 5K called 5K for RJ. Half of the fund went to the American Stroke Association and the other half went to a student scholarship. We had a great turn out and it was a pretty cool event. I’m excited to get things started. I’ll be holding an orientation for our council next week.

Senator Brost: How big did your council end up being?

Senator Dent: About 12 individuals.

Senator Brost: I just finalized a selection for my council on Friday. Everyone was notified today and we’re working on putting together an orientation for them the week of May 13. I yield.

Senator Lyons: I got my council finalized on Friday. I’ve been holding interviews for the president position today and tomorrow and then I should have the VP positions selected by the end of this week. On the same timeline I hope to have a meeting with them before finals begin. I yield.

Senator Karras: Quick review: The College of Engineering has had several great events recently directed towards research and graduate studies. We also have a closing social and other major events to close the year off. Our committee is finalized; we have 10 leadership positions and 60 general council members. We are beginning trainings this week tomorrow, Wednesday, and Thursday. Yield.

Senator Chamberlain: I’m looking at finalizing my council. Next week I’m closing up the application. Not too many applicants, but we’re working on it. Earth Week this week so if anyone wants to promote that in their college that would be dope. Yield.

Senator Bird: I’ve just been working on going through applications today and I have it pretty much finalized. I’m planning on sending it out tonight and meeting with them hopefully next week. Yield.

ADVISOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

VP Lake: Perfect. Any advisor announcements?

Spencer Bitner: I’m excited for all of you. This is a really cool opportunity that you have. One of the things that I want to reiterate that Vice President Lake said is “counsel together often.” I think it’s something very neat that you can do to talk to each other and see what’s happening around the university and work
together to make things better across your different colleges. Next semester we’ll set up meetings with me. I need to meet with all of you every other week at the minimal amount. We can meet every week if you want to, they’re not long meetings, I won’t waste your time, but once you have your final class schedule and your office hours set out we need to coordinate those meetings. I would love to do that by the beginning of August so we’re ready once the semester starts to work around anything. With your presidents you’ve selected for your councils, we need that information so that we can get them their scholarship stipend. We need their ANUmbers and names so we can get that taken care of. As soon as you know that, get that to Sophia. We also need the rubrics for those groups, what you used to interview them, we just need a copy of that. Electronic is awesome. President’s house breakfast is this Friday at 7:30. You should have RSVP’d. Wear your polo. It’s a really cool opportunity, one of the fun perks you guys get. That’s all I have. The next training is April 23, not this Tuesday but the next. We already said that, but I wanted to get you the date. It’ll be your last one. Has anybody had problems with the Canvas course?

Senator Bird: How much was the stipend again for the president of our council?

Linda Zimmerman: $300 a semester.

Spencer Bitner: We’ll be adding trainings to the Canvas throughout the whole summer, so even if you’re not taking classes check out Canvas every once in a while.

Senator Ward: About the Canvas course: I’m just a little bit confused about the way it’s organized and how the modules are organized. When I went through to look at the assignments, a lot of them aren’t dated so I was confused about which ones I need to do when because I wasn’t certain on which module was which for each week.

Spencer Bitner: They’ll roll out. I think we should have the second one this week. The next two will be the next two weeks. Basically, everything is due by the first retreat that will be happening in August, so before our first retreat you should have gone through the modules. Some people will be planning things very close to the beginning of the year and some people won’t plan things for a long time, so it depends on what you’re doing but we didn’t want to have everybody’s modules due a week out and then have you forget it completely. The idea is for you to do it before the semester starts. Does that make sense? We’re going to be adding things to it periodically but for sure the first four modules need to be done before the semester starts.

VP Lake: Any other questions or discussions that need to be brought up?

Senator Dent: Setting office hours? How do we go about doing that?

Spencer Bitner: You’re required, per charter, 10 hours a week. Some of you have the benefit of having a space within your college buildings to have office hours. My recommendation is that if you have that available to take advantage of it, so you can serve the students that you’re close with at least twice a week. Depending on your class schedule we can adjust the hours but typically we do two hours a day. If you need to adjust past that it needs to be confirmed by Vice President Lake as far as this body goes.

Senator Dent: A follow-up: I heard that you guys were thinking of eliminating the information
booth hours. Was there a decision made on that?

VP Lake: That was voted on and it was failed in Executive Council so currently it stands. And just to clarify that as well, it’s nine hours in your office wherever that may be and then one hour in the info booth so one of your office hours does count in the information booth.

Linda Zimmerman: Point of Information: you do not have to worry about your office hours until August because we have Dead Week and Finals and so we do not expect you to do that the next two weeks.

Spencer Bitner: That goes with the meetings with me also.

Senator Fry: No office hours the next two weeks?

Spencer Bitner: Yes

VP Lake: Doesn’t mean you can’t be in there, but you don’t have to be. Chamberlain?

Senator Chamberlain: Point of Clarification: do the office hours in our own building have to be a certain amount of hours there versus here?

Linda Zimmerman: No.

VP Lake: Just as long as you’re getting your ten hours in. Ward?

Senator Ward: This might be covered later but how should we coordinate so that our information booth hours don’t overlap?

VP Lake: There will be a Google Sheet sent out and then you’ll just have to work that out. We really do ask that you don’t overlap with another officer. Depending on what President Ahmed does (I don’t know if he’s going to require his President’s Cabinet to be down there, some people do require their committees). We do ask that you don’t overlap with each other so that more time is spread out amongst us if that makes sense.

Any other questions? Alright, I entertain a motion to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT

Senator Chamberlain: Moved / Senator Dent: Second / Adjourned

IN ATTENDANCE: Linda Zimmerman, Spencer Bitner, VP Dexton Lake, Senator Jared Fry, Senator Sakia Brost, Senator Nathan Scott, Senator Sara Dent, Senator Rachel Chamberlain, Senator Naomi Ward, Senator Alex Lyons, Senator Tiffanee Bird, Senator Cooper Karras, Assistant Anna Kremnev