CALL TO ORDER

VP Dexton Lake: Ok I'm going to call this meeting to order. Guys, welcome to our very first Academic Senate of this year! That's exciting! We already had one but it's the first of this academic year so that's really cool. Let’s get carried away here. I will entertain a motion to approve our last meeting’s minutes. I know it’s been a while but you should have read them so I’ll entertain that motion.

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

VP Dexton Lake: I’m kind of going to recap meetings just because it has been a while. Typically after this, we do what's not necessarily attendance but it’s just accountability of office hours, info booth, and MyVoice. Since it’s the first day we’ll just go ahead and forego that but next week anticipate that.

Administrator Kremnev has sent out info booth assignments. Typically we don’t do that, we haven't given assignments before, but in the interest of trying to maximize info booth this time it’s been made so we'll see how that goes. If you have an issue, contact her.

Make sure you’re checking MyVoice regularly. It’s a good practice to check it just once a day. I don’t know how VP Rivera’s going to do that; last year I got like three but just check it so that you can be accountable.

As far as your office hours, we know that things are going to change as your courses change; just try to have them in to [Assistant Kremnev] by the end of this week. That'd be ideal so that we can get them posted.

PUBLIC FORUM

VP Dexton Lake: We don’t have any public forum today so we’ll just keep on trudging along.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

VP Dexton Lake: I have a few points to make as far as President’s Report. These come from both President Ahmed and I.

Make sure that, gentlemen, you make it to Leven’s by September 13th to get your suit sized and all that.
Ladies, you need to have worked with Sophie to get your jackets picked out and all that. You’re going to
do it, I believe, through an online platform. That needs to be done by September 13th as well.

Yes, Senator Lyons?

Senator Alex Lyons: I already went in. How soon can we pick those up?

VP Dexton Lake: They’ll call you so that should be...

Linda Zimmerman: They usually wait until they get the whole order and then they’ll order the whole lump sum. That’s why there’s a deadline that really has to be kept. They won’t be ordered until September 14th probably and then once they come in they let us know and you’ll need to go in and get it fitted.

Senator Alex Lyons: Perfect, great to know.

VP Dexton Lake: Did you have something, Senator Bird?

Senator Tiffanee Bird: Yes. I talked to Sophie today about the women’s ones and I’ll just contact all of you guys individually to get sizes and everything.

VP Dexton Lake: Oh, perfect. Thank you guys for being so prompt, that is awesome.

I sent this out in an email about a month ago, but let me know when your council meetings are. I’m going to try to make the point to attend one of your council meetings a month. That’ll be an iffy thing because-- for a couple of reasons. One: I also have a life, but two: I really want to attend multiple that month when your college week is approaching. For instance, Senator Brost and Senator Dent have their college weeks coming up; I would like to attend at least two of theirs beforehand. I’m not doing that just to critique you or judge you, it’s just a matter of, "how can I help you out?" I feel like that’d be a good thing for me to do to help you all out because I’m here for you guys. I really want to see how you guys function in your councils, I want to see the different types of leadership you have.

Also, if you have input that you want to give regarding tomorrow’s budget vote, if that is carried out-- whether or not its tabled that’s yet to be known-- but if you have input that you’d like to give tomorrow, I’d be happy to have any one of you join us or all of you join us. Then I can either have you make that point in Public Forum or I could make the motion to suspend house rules when that debate comes up. If you’re interested, please feel free to attend. If you feel like your point was made during our retreat, that’s great too. I’m definitely taking into account everybody’s input because I feel like we’re kind of all on the same page about that.

Okay, continuing on: if you are missing a theme placard that was given to you on Saturday, President Ahmed had one that was left in his car. If you’re missing yours, just contact him.

Remind your council presidents of Upstander training. You all need to go to at least one of those. You have the dates; if you don’t, if you somehow managed to lose those dates, I have them. Remind your council presidents because they need to attend; I would also strongly suggest having your councils attend but it’s not required that they do attend.
Also, President Ahmed made me aware of this just now: October 16th is Aggie Heroes. If you have anybody in mind that you’d like to submit to be a part of that, the deadline for submission is September 13th. He’s going to send one of the two of us a link and then we’ll distribute that out to you to fill that out.

Senator Rachel Chamberlain: What is Aggie Heroes?

VP Dexton Lake: I’m going to just turn that over to you to answer because you could probably do a better job than I could.

President Sami Ahmed: So Aggie Heroes is something we’ve been doing the last three years. Basically, we nominate Aggies that have stories to tell us, almost like a TED talk, where they share experiences they’ve had in their lives. The hope is that by the end of it, students and people are inspired to act or motivated to do based on the stories they hear. We have five speakers that come and they’ll each share a unique story about them. That’s pretty much it. USUSA sponsors it, along with Aggies Think Care Act, and we’re looking for people to speak at that. It can be anyone, it can be any story: there’s no specific thing we’re looking for. We’ll reach out to them.

VP Dexton Lake: Great, thank you.

As far as other parts of that report, I just want to give an accounting of what I’ve been doing this summer. I’ve been working closely with our lighting group here on campus and the project of getting lighting on the quad is underway. It looks like it might be ground lighting so it doesn’t close off the quad and it also doesn’t pose a safety hazard. They think they can do that with the budget that I have of about $65,000. It’s a little less, I think. There’s a designer working on it right now and we’re in the process of contracting it out. It’ll probably have to be approved by the university’s design group but they’re also kind of making plans to redesign the quad anyway so it might just perfectly merge into one project. Also, if there is part of that funding left over it will go towards putting lighting at the bottom of Old Main where you can park along the concrete wall. That’s three-hour parking and on the other side of the street we’d cast lighting towards those parking spots. If my budget doesn’t—and by budget I mean Facilities Enhancement funding—if my Facilities Enhancement funding runs out on the quad project, Facilities has already committed to spending their money to improve that area, so that’s reassuring to know that as well. Other areas that I had previously identified: as part of this big road reconstruction thing that they’ve been doing a light redesigning thing that has already been identified and over the course of the next year to year and a half we’ll be improving lighting there as well. I was very excited about that. With that, I will yield my time.

NEW BUSINESS

VP Dexton Lake: It doesn’t look like we have any new business unless anybody has any new business that needs to be brought up... Seeing none, we are going to go to our council updates.

COUNCIL UPDATES

Just a reminder: these are just meant to be what you’ve accomplished this summer. Quite honestly, if you really didn’t work on much this summer that’s okay. Obviously we have two senators who really have to be busy during the summer to build up for their college weeks, but some of you don’t have that quote-
unquote luxury, if that’s what you want to consider it, so if you don’t have anything aside from just working on getting your councils built up—we’d love to hear that—but if you really don’t have anything that’s okay. We do want to hear what’s going on and what’s going on in your councils. I will start with Senator Bird.

**Senator Tiffanee Bird:** I have just been meeting with each person on my council one-on-one today. I’ve talked about what I expect from them and what I want them to do. I’ve just been meeting with them today and tomorrow and then our first meeting is tomorrow. That’s basically it.

**Senator Naomi Ward:** My council members and I are working to promote Light on the Hill. That’s tomorrow night at 6:30 at the amphitheater, so if you know anybody that might be interested, send them that way. We’ve mostly just been working on getting that ready and promoting that to as many people as we can.

The Dean’s Office has also asked us to start a kindness campaign based on a speech from commencement last year, so that might be up on social media. If you could share that once that’s up and running that would be awesome, too. That’s pretty much it for now.

**Senator Alex Lyons:** I’ve just been working a lot with the council. I’ve had quite a few meetings with the executive members of my council; we had one a couple Saturdays ago. All the VPs have their own project that they’re working on.

To name a few: we’re redesigning the college, the way it’s made accessible to the students. That’s been a major problem lately, so we’re trying to find a better way to make it publicly accessible for students to find.

We’re starting interviews for a mentorship program that we’re going to have for people who are freshmen and sophomores.

We’re working on redoing a little bit of our social media. That’s been three of my main pushes the past three months or so.

**Senator Jared Fry:** Over the summer I got request proposals back from the insurance companies for dental insurance for graduate students, so I sent that up to the head of the graduate schools as well as the department heads. It was really hard to meet with them while I was in a different country over the summer, so when I came back this morning I sent out a couple of invites for meetings so I hope to tie that up and get some feedback on that within the next couple of weeks.

I also sent out all of our decisions for GRCO funding to graduate students. I got all of that done over the summer.

Today I’ve just been sending out Doodle polls to my council to set up our first meeting, tie down any events we have going on this semester, and talk about mental health week and Instagram.

**Senator Rachel Chamberlain:** Our first council meeting is next week. We’ve been planning our retreat for our college: we’re going to Bear Lake Training Center not this weekend but next weekend and that’s with all clubs leadership and our council. We’ll be doing some leadership training and things there.
We’ve also been planning--our college is having our opening social on Wednesday with all the clubs and just getting everyone on the same page for events and things like that.

Senator Cooper Karras: In the College of Engineering we have a freshman welcome coming up to welcome all of the newly declared engineering majors. We have a college-wide opening social as well that we’ve been preparing for to advertise for our clubs. It’s kind of cosponsored by Clubopaloosa, an event where clubs do all of their recruitment, as well as just the typical social we have every year.

We revamped our mentorship program, so we’ll also be getting a new process of connecting some of those students that come to the freshman welcome with peer mentors, whether they be graduate studies or professional program students.

We have a Graduate Studies Social for our graduate studies students within the college of engineering.

Our committee retreat is coming up as well; we’ve been planning that to train our leadership.

There have been some recent facilities changes in the college of engineering to revamp some sitting areas. We worked closely with that at the end of the school year so it’s been pretty exciting to see those come to fruition, with our recent efforts.

Senator Sara Dent: Within the Business School Council, one of my initiatives was improving transparency of student resources within the school, like scholarships and internships, so I’ve been helping the Dean’s Office with this little initiative that we have called the START Desk. It’s just a little booth at the bottom of Huntsman Hall and they can come to talk to advisors about any questions they have and also get the resources that they need so it’s pretty cool to see that up and going.

One of my initiatives as well was to help transfer students and freshmen, so my team worked on a transfer student orientation module through Qualtrics over the summer and we got that rolled out just barely--this morning, actually--so that’s exciting.

We have Business Week in four weeks. It’s coming up, so we’ve been working hard at that.

We have our first meeting tomorrow and then we’re meeting with the Dean’s Office for a casual meet-and-greet so that the business council members know what the responsibilities of each Dean’s Office employee are, so I think that will be really helpful and fun.

Senator Sakia Brost: College of Ag has been way busy this summer being as that our college’s week is September 16th-22nd. We really have to get rolling on a lot of stuff during summer. Pretty much everything is planned, for the most part. We’ve got flyers made, t-shirts are almost made...

I’ll kind of give you guys a quick rundown of what’s happening that week:

Monday we’re just doing cookies in any building that you might have a College of Ag class in.

Tuesday we’re having a movie out at the ***** (this is kind of the event during the week that we’re putting most of our eggs in, I would say). It’s going to be pretty cool having a movie out at the ***, kind of an outside movie. We’re calling it a Moovie. We’ve got that going on.
Family and Consumer Science Education—it’s their 100-year anniversary this year and so they are planting a tree just like CTE did last year. They’re planting a tree on the patio of the Ag Science building, so that’ll be pretty cool. That night we’ll have some speakers there and everyone’s welcome to attend.

Wednesday we have our Day on the Patio: the ambassadors cook shishkabobs and we’ll sell them for a dollar, we’ll have some animals there (there’s not going to be a mechanical bull this year, we vetoed that one so we’ll bring on the animals instead), and then we’ll have clubs and businesses. That’s where our big recruiting event for the clubs is.

Thursday we have our scholarship banquet.

Friday’s our tractor parade and we have the Hunger Summit. It’s a new thing this year, it’s kind of a conference I guess, a one-day ordeal where other colleges in the state come and the main focus is like our SNAC office. They’ll talk about how they do their student SNAC offices, plus there’ll be many opportunities for students that have done research in food science to kind of promote that. We’ll have some speakers and stuff. We’ll have some pretty cool speakers, you probably heard that.

Friday night we’ll have the Campout on the Quad sponsored by our Outdoor Product Design and Development major.

Saturday the airport is doing a fun run-type deal so it’s going to be pretty cool. We just ask that you guys help blast that out on social media as that gets closer and just come.

Senator Nathan Scott: I have been reaching out to all my council members because Cooper Low reached out to us to have a booth at Aggiepalooza today, so come check out our booth. There’s going to be live art and a lot of our students are gonna be showcasing their art. It’s going to be pretty cool. We have spray painting, we got someone drawing on her easel as well... It should be pretty awesome.

Our first meeting is next week and we’re just going to go straight from there planning for Oktoberfest on October 10th and solidifying some of the plans that we have for that.

VP Dexton Lake: Perfect. Just a reminder: when you’re finished giving your updates to just say "I yield" or something to that effect just so there’s a smooth transition and it helps us know when to transition in the notes. If you could just say that that’d be great.

You guys gave some really great updates today, I’m excited to see what’s going on. Thank you.

I do need to add one thing that I forgot to mention, shame on me: here probably within the next week, if not the next few days, I’m going to be sharing a link with you guys. It’s going to be a link to a Qualtrics form for people to sign up to be a Student At Large for Fee Board. We’re really trying to get the ball rolling on that. I kind of do want to prioritize people who... How do I put this? Let me rephrase that: I would like you guys to disseminate it to your councils first, and then have it disseminated on your social media, and then your college. We’re all looking for exceptional individuals to sit on that and so if you have anybody in mind specifically that you feel like could be an exceptional individual, please send that out. We have seven spots. It would be great to get-- I don’t want to duplicate from colleges, I’d like to try to avoid that. I won’t be able to get one from each college, a college will be left out (actually two colleges will be left out) but please try to make that a priority and I’ll get that link to you whenever it’s ready which should be here
soon. I already have it filled out and it’s being added to our application page on our new student involvement website. Thank you.

**ADVISOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Is there any advisor announcements?

**Linda Zimmerman:** Spencer apologizes he’s not here. If you walked by the quad, the big ferris wheel was installed today. We’re getting ready for the carnival so he’s kind of running around.

I believe he sent you either a Slack message or an email about setting up a meeting, your one-on-one times, so he can see how he can help you—especially those of you that have dates coming up—get screens for your Moovie. He’s a great resource, even if you’re going through your college. He knows a lot of different companies that can help you with that.

I know that VP Lake talked about coming into Executive Council with the budgets, which is awesome. I do believe we also have a gentleman named James Nye, he’s the director of all parking, that I thought was coming today but we think he’s coming tomorrow and he wants to present to the students. I don’t know, you might have to help me... I believe there’s going to be a new parking structure that’s going to be built on campus and he wants to talk about parking passes and different things. If you’re interested in learning about that, I would come to Public Forum as well tomorrow.

**VP Dexton Lake:** May I add especially those who sit on the Parking and Transportation Committee.

**Linda Zimmerman:** Do you know who you are?

**VP Dexton Lake:** I know Senator Brost is, I know science is, I know that NR is, Student Advocate, myself... That might be it. There might be one more.

**Linda Zimmerman:** Assuming he’s going to get this board together pretty quickly, but he did want to come and at least share his vision with the students. He emailed me earlier in the summer and I thought he was coming to both but anyway he didn’t show up today. Something must have happened. If you’d like to hear, we’d invite you to come and listen to that or read the minutes.

**Senator Alex Lyons:** If my office hours are like directly over the time of the meeting, would I be able to step out for a little while?

**Linda Zimmerman:** Just throw a note where you are and they can come in and get you if anybody—this first week I highly doubt anybody’s going to drop in, but yeah, just fine.

**Senator Alex Lyons:** Okay, thank you.

**Senator Sakia Brost:** What time is EC tomorrow?

**VP Dexton Lake:** 4:00.

Did you have something, Senator Chamberlain?
Senator Rachel Chamberlain: The same.

VP Dexton Lake: Same question?

Linda Zimmerman: With that, I yield

VP Dexton Lake: Perfect, thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

Is there anything else that needs to be brought up?

Senator Rachel Chamberlain: Next Monday is a holiday; are we having a meeting?

VP Dexton Lake: Yes, no meeting next week. If you want to have one, great, I’m not going to be joining you.

Anything else? Senator Dent?

Senator Sara Dent: I know a lot of us are doing--well, we all should be doing the Soda with the Senators tomorrow. I don’t know if any of you have printed out flyers yet, but we’re supposed to get permission from Spencer to get our approved use of a PCard, but I haven’t gotten ahold of him. I’ve texted and can’t get in contact.

Linda Zimmerman: I’d be happy to sign that for you.

Senator Sara Dent: Alright, cool. I’ll do that after.

I don’t think it’s too late to send it, is it?

Linda Zimmerman: No.

Is it tomorrow?

Senator Sara Dent: Yeah, tomorrow.

Linda Zimmerman: How many copies?

Senator Sara Dent: I don’t know. How many did you do?

Senator Rachel Chamberlain: I didn’t print a ton because we were talking about maybe just having one there that people can take pictures with their phone, like, a big one. I printed like 20 small ones and then a big one.

Senator Sara Dent: I was thinking maybe 100?

Linda Zimmerman: You can walk right now and have PDP--it’s not PDP downstairs but the copy center--take your PCard. I’m happy to sign that. I know [Spencer] would approve that.
Senator Sara Dent: Okay, thank you.

VP Dexton Lake: Senator Bird?

Senator Tiffanee Bird: Do you want each of us to fill out a PCard individually?

Linda Zimmerman: So this flyer—is it for all of you or for each individual college?

All: Each college.

Senator Sakia Brost: Just to show our personal hours.

Linda Zimmerman: Oh

Senator Sakia Brost: I initially wasn’t planning on handing them out, I was just going to bring one and have it sitting out for students to know.

VP Dexton Lake: Senator Ward?

Senator Naomi Ward: Would it be most efficient for all of us to send flyers to one person and then do it all together?

Linda Zimmerman: We could do that.

Senator Sara Dent: Would it take it out of one person’s account?

Linda Zimmerman: We’d have to divide the account, so we’d just have to know how many flyers she wanted versus you versus anybody else.

Senator Naomi Ward: I just want to print one.

Linda Zimmerman: I feel like if you’re only printing one, you can use our office computer, our office printer; 100 we always—anything over 20-25 we’ll send you downstairs but anything under you’re welcome to just take it in to Sophie and she can print it for you.

Can we have a discussion whether we feel like we want everybody doing the same thing or we want everybody... You know what I mean? Or are you okay with a few having flyers or having one for pictures or..?

VP Dexton Lake: If it were me--I’m not going to dictate what you all should do because it’s ultimately up to you (and to be quite honest I don’t really have a part in this Soda with the Senators this year) but it would be my suggestion just to have one and just have people take pictures of it simply for the fact that--you can attest to this--during elections, if you handed anything out during elections, odds are ten feet up the sidewalk you found it on the ground. It’ll be the same thing tomorrow. That’s just my suggestion, take that for what it’s worth.

Did you have something?
Senator Cooper Karras: In addition to my office hours, I was planning on just having one sheet for people to see and reference. I was also just going to have a flyer for each upcoming event so I could advertise some of our main events as well as my office hours, just on one sheet.

VP Dexton Lake: Did you have something, Senator Fry?

Senator Jared Fry: I was just going to ask why we were feeling the need to go through PDP if we’re just doing one copy?

VP Dexton Lake: You don’t have to at all. In fact, I know the printer in the senators’ office is not very faithful at all, but if you can print it off on there, do that too. It’s whatever works.

Do you have something, Linda?

Linda Zimmerman: You’re just welcome—if it’s under 25—to just print it on our printer. You can bring it on a jump drive or email it to me or Sophie or Megan and we can print it and put it right on your desk. We’re here to help you however you want.

Back to your question: it might be easier just to come and check the PCard out if you plan on doing multiple copies and that way we keep our accounts a little bit separate. If Spencer’s not around I will sign your PCard requests for you.

VP Dexton Lake: Did you have something, Senator Lyons?

Senator Alex Lyons: I was just going to ask if we should come to get it printed off just immediately after this meeting?

Linda Zimmerman: Sure, absolutely.

Senator Sakia Brost: I guess the question is: do we want to all stay the same? I think that would probably be best? One sheet?

Senator Sara Dent: Will we make them a little bit bigger?

Senator Jared Fry: Can I motion to put this to vote?

VP Dexton Lake: Go for it, it’s fine by me.

Confirmation of one-page office hours sheet: Senator Fry: Moved / Senator Lyons: Second / Voting body: Passed

Linda Zimmerman: Do you want it on cardstock? Like a heavier, thicker paper?

All: Yes.

Senator Cooper Karras: So that it’s fine if soda gets spilled on it.

Senator Tiffanee Bird: Also, polos and nametags?
VP Dexton Lake: Yes. I’m going to tell you guys to go ahead and do that one. I’m going to dictate that one because it looks professional.

Senator Sakia Brost: Is everyone on Slack?

Senator Alex Lyons: Yeah, finally.

Senator Tiffanee Bird: Do we just want to meet on the patio at 10:30 tomorrow?

All: Yep.

 Senator Sara Dent: Aren’t we supposed to be there a little bit early?

Senator Sakia Brost: It starts at 11, so if we’re there by 10:30, that’s early.

VP Dexton Lake: Senator Scott?

Senator Nathan Scott: I sent a message today and Senator Bird replied about what we’re going to wear. Are we just planning on wearing our senator polos and nametags?

VP Dexton Lake: I’m going to dictate that one. I really do think you all should. It’s going to look very professional and very uniform and very unified.

Senator Alex Lyons: I have class until 11:15 but I’ll be there as soon as I can get there.

VP Dexton Lake: That’s fine.

Linda?

Linda Zimmerman: This is Sodas With the Senators, so where are we getting the sodas from and are you making sure that they are Pepsi products?

Senator Sakia Brost: Yeah, I filled out the Pepsi donation form.

Linda Zimmerman: Sweet!

Senator Sakia Brost: Cooper and I have been working on it.

Linda Zimmerman: You got a donation on that then?

Senator Sakia Brost: Yeah.

Linda Zimmerman: Good job!

VP Dexton Lake: Go ahead.

President Sami Ahmed: I think we left some sodas for you guys in your office.

Senator Tiffanee Bird: Oh yeah, the ones in our office are left over from Aggie Blue.
President Ahmed: Yeah, so that’s donated to you guys.

VP Dexton Lake: Okay, anything else?

Well, I can say it was very rare last year we finished a meeting by 4:30, so with that I will entertain a motion to adjourn this meeting.

Motion to adjourn: Senator Brost: Moved / Senator Chamberlain: Second / Voting body: Passed

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