CALL TO ORDER

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

OFFICER ACCOUNTABILITY

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

VP Lake: Truth in Tuition is Wednesday. That’s required. It’s in the ballroom at 11. There’s no specific dress code. Please tell your council members. Part of that will involve all of you: we’re presenting on student fees for the first time.

Senator Karras: How long will that last?

VP Lake: Usually about an hour, it shouldn’t be too long.

Senator Chamberlain: Who is presenting on student fees?

VP Lake: I am. You all were just involved in that, so I wanted to inform you.

Senator Fry: Will we still be having another tuition review committee meeting about the safety increase?

VP Lake: She didn’t do anything regarding that I don’t think.

VP Lake: Please be available to your newly-elected senators. If they’re not reaching out to you by the end of the week, I would reach out to them so you can get them in your office and train them. Try to prepare them as much as you can.

There is a Coronavirus taskforce that has been assembled and they are coming to EC tomorrow. I’m sure you saw the emails sent out and suggestions for preventing Coronavirus, but it may be interesting to you to hear what they’ve been doing.

Senator Fry: They said if anyone has been in a level 3 country, even as a layover, they want you to self-quarantine. If any faculty feel that they’ve been exposed they are encouraged to self-quarantine and they’ll try to figure out online teaching. They mentioned that it would be difficult, though.
Spencer Bitner: I recommend you attend tomorrow. They can use your feedback. They’re literally reacting day-by-day. They meet every day and adjust.

Senator Fry: They are also thinking about cancelling some on-campus events.

Senator Chamberlain: They mentioned that they sent out a campus-wide survey that asks where you’ve been. Encourage people to take that. They also said that students should stay home if they’re sick.

VP Lake: Don’t forget about Dean’s Breakfast on April 6th. By the end of the week I’ll send an email to all of you about asking about notable items to have on the agenda that can be sent to deans and your new senators.

Senator Chamberlain: That’s at 7:30?

VP Lake: Yes, on April 6th.

Senator Scott: I need an excusal from a class.

VP Lake: We’ll get you one.

NEW BUSINESS

Assistant Kremnev: Right now the AOF undergraduate fund is at about $4,000 while the graduate fund is at $9,200. The applications we’re reviewing today are mostly undergraduate, too. There isn’t any legislation that says it must be separated the way it is now, so I want to entertain a motion to either open up the funding to first-come, first-serve and not reserve any for graduate students, or set aside a smaller amount for graduate students.

Senator Fry: Could we reserve $3,000 for graduate students and then reevaluate later?

Assistant Kremnev: Sure! Is that enough? The undergraduate funding will go quickly, so if you want more, speak now.

Senator Brost: What’s in there now?

Assistant Kremnev: $9,200. Three graduate applications have been awarded $800 total.

Senator Fry: I think $3,000 will be okay.

Assistant Kremnev: Okay.

There is another fund on campus for graduate students, so it’s not like they don’t need funding, they just have other options. Jared assumes that once that fund is depleted they’ll apply for the AOF, so the current trend is unlikely to continue; it will probably boom.

Senator Fry: I also talked with a few groups of graduate students about the AOF and they said a big deterrent to them applying is the extra requirements of contribution and the things the AOF doesn’t cover; the other funds on campus don’t have those specifications.

$3,000 reserved for graduate students: Senator Karras: Moved / Senator Fry: Second / Voting body: Passed

COUNCIL UPDATES
Senator Scott: We had a good elections week. We held an event on Monday for clubs and candidates to promote.

This Wednesday we’ll have QPR Training with CAPS and Stacy Gerbich. We’re hoping to get a lot of students to attend. I think it’s very important, especially for arts students.

Senator Fry: The week before spring break we had another pop-up social. About 200 students came. It’s cool to move around campus because there’s a new group there each time. We’ve received a ton of positive feedback. Our next one will be March 25th in the Education building and our last one will be on the Quad towards the end of April, which our new senator will help with.

Mental Health Week is next week, so if any of you want free succulents or free yoga mats, come! I’ll send graphics.

I got engaged over spring break!

I sent out an email this morning with a Google form for the dinner; please fill it out.

Tax season is coming to an end, so if you need help let me know.

Senator Bird: During elections week, I sent an email out to all students that had a bio for each candidate and there was a lot of positive feedback.

I’m still working to restructure club policy in the college so we have a sustainable list because every year it takes time to figure out new contact information for leadership. Hopefully our associate dean, dean, and department heads will all be on board.

The education fair is next week and they have tons of school districts to hire teachers.

Senator Lyons: This week is Pi Day from 10-2 we’ll be in Library 101. You need to be a member of one of our colleges.

Senator Karras: If we have remaining pie, you’re welcome to have it at 2 PM.

Senator Lyons: We’re putting together a Kahoot quiz and it’ll just be a battle between the colleges. If it gets cancelled I guess we could just have Academic Pi Day.

My council has been working on an event for April 2nd. We’re doing a Research Mingle. We’re sending invitations this week. We’ll be having about 30 pizzas at the event, so hopefully people will come.

Senator Chamberlain: I would like to point out that NR also uses pi in calculations, so we’d like some.

NR Week is next week. Chacos and Tacos will be in our main atrium, and there will be tacos. We’re having a pet parade on Friday, so bring pets and we’ll just parade them from the NR building to the quad. We’re having a biodiversity art night in the ballroom where our clubs will be hosting art activities.

In faculty senate, Noelle Cockett did a press release about the university’s approval of the recommendations given by the Greenhouse Reduction Taskforce that they’ll be implementing all of those over the next little while.

Senator Ward: I talked to Paulina about Women’s Week and I guess it’s not happening, so we’re doing our event alone. We’ll do Kahoot Women in History trivia. Come, bring your friends, this Friday in the Hub at 10.

CHaSS Week is in two weeks. We just got graphics, so if you could share those, that would be awesome. Networking
Night is Monday night, which is probably our biggest CHaSS-centered event. Students need to go to the website to RSVP so they can pick which alum they want to sit with. Slam Poetry Night is a collaboration with Series committee on Tuesday, and I think there will be mugs, so everyone should go. I believe we’ll also have an ASL translator, so that will be really cool, too. Thursday morning there will be an Anthropology Museum Field Trip that everyone’s invited to; we’ll have fruit snacks and juice boxes. Quiz Bowl is on Thursday night at the Factory Pizzeria. Friday we’ll have the taco truck on the quad.

Senator Brost: College of Ag has a women’s event on Thursday the 12th. We’re having our Women in Agriculture event: from 1:30-3:30 we’ll be in the atrium of the Ag Science building working on resume reviews, interview skills, internship ideas, career coaches, and some people from career services will be helping. From 4-6 we’ll be in the Skyroom with some successful women in agriculture on a panel with some networking afterwards. There will be food, so come.

We did a survey in the college about what other events and activities student would like to see. They picked another movie, so we’re doing an outdoor/drive-in movie down at the parking lot of the football field, so if you come in by the softball fields, it’ll be over there. We’ll set up an area for those who don’t have a vehicle. We’re kind of teaming up with Cy and the End-of-Year Block Party, so this will be April 18th. The three movies we narrowed it down to are Footloose, Goonies, and Ferris Bueller’s Day Off.

Senator Dent: We had an event on Friday where a female CEO was coming in, which has been cancelled. Our networking night has also been cancelled. Now we have two events. We had to do a lot of rearranging and scheduling because of this, so our biggest event is Wednesday at 6 PM where we’re doing a panel with heavy hors d’oeuvres. We’ll be talking about stereotypes of women in the workplace and how to combat those as well as the idea that to be successful you can’t have a family. We want to fight those issues. If you guys are interested, I’d love your help because we sent out all the wrong information this morning because of all of the cancellations. I’d love to see you guys there. If we can get as many women there as possible. We’ll also talk about relationships between men and women in the workplace. I think it’ll be really interesting.

All of our Focused Fridays for the rest of the semester are cancelled. I’m trying to work with the dean to work out something else.

Senator Karras: We’re trying to do a tabling event with CAPS for Mental Health Week.

We’re planning our Cram Slam and end-of-year social.

We already mentioned Pi Day.

My application for engineering council president opens tomorrow; if you know any engineers who are interested, tell them to check their email.

ADVISOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Spencer Bitner: I have been part of a group that’s talking about events on campus and the virus. We’re meeting weekly right now. There are a lot of unknown things and so we’re using an abundance of caution. They’re playing it by ear here, know that all of your events that you are planning for the rest of the semester have the potential to be cancelled. I don’t know how likely it is; the directive will probably come from higher up than USU.

Thank you for being flexible with me the week before spring break while I was on paternity leave. Our baby boy, Harrison, is awesome.
There is a letter that Sami and Cooper are trying to draw up with regards to space in the TSC, so please support them in that.

Please be at Truth in Tuition and try to get as many people there as possible. It’s a really rare thing to have this much transparency.

Yesterday was Utah State’s birthday. They celebrate Founder’s Day with alumni, but we’re trying to celebrate that in a way that interests students with Big Blue’s Birthday Bash, because Big Blue was born 31 years ago at a basketball tournament. This Friday, the 13th, at 8 PM we’ll have Big Blue’s Birthday Bash in the TSC lounges.

Senator Dent: Will that be after the Founder’s Day event?

Spencer Bitner: It should be.

Senator Chamberlain: What are they doing for Founder’s Day?

Spencer Bitner: It’s mostly directed towards development and donors. It’s a reception and performance on Friday, and other stuff on Thursday where they bring in a lot of the larger donors. I think students can RSVP, but they don’t really get involved so we’re pushing the Bash.

ADJOURNMENT

Senator Lyons: Moved / Senator Scott: Second / Voting body: Passed

IN ATTENDANCE: Spencer Bitner, VP Dexton Lake, Senator Jared Fry, 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