CALL TO ORDER
- President Ahmed: Please remember to speak loudly to be able to have your voice heard on the recording.

PUBLIC FORUM
- President Ahmed: There is consideration starting Spring Semester in later January in order to do away with Spring Break with the hope to have graduation. Did I miss anything, Provost?
- Provost Galey: That pretty much sums it up. It is a lot to ask faculty and students to do away with Spring Break. The consideration is if we move that week from the middle of the semester to the beginning by extending the Winter Break, it will enable us to start after Martin Luther King (MLK) Day, which eliminates a three-day holiday of traveling. This will also allow for an additional week of preparation. If we can minimize risk from traveling, we hope this will enable us to have a graduation. Spring Break is an important mental health break. We have had conversations with Dr. Morales to help let off some steam during semester were we to do this. After Spring Break, there is still a lot of school left, unlike with Thanksgiving where we just go online for a couple of weeks. President Cockett thought it would be important for me to get feedback on this from you all. We thought about implementing one day breaks within the semester, but this prevents us from having an extra week of preparation. We would still have one three-day weekend, the President’s Day Holiday, which President Cockett is comfortable with. The safest thing to do would be to start after MLK Day. Comments?
  - VP Diaz: What would happen during the typical week of Spring Break?
    - Provost: Classes would be held that week and spring classes would instead start on January 19th.
  - VP Stevens: You mentioned mental health discussions of Spring Break with Dr. Morales, could you elaborate on those?
    - Provost Galey: Upper administration is working on those mental health breaks for the fall and ramping those up during the spring. Sami could elaborate on that.
      - President Ahmed: Yes, Dr. Morales proposed this in terms of
academic support and keeping the one-day break in-between dead week and finals. It will still be challenge. But the focus right now is academic support.

- Provost Galley: Spring Break is scheduled March 8th-12th. Currently Spring Semester is set to start on January 11th. But if the switch happens, classes would start on January 19th.

- Director Arner: I like the idea of extending the Holiday Break, but I wonder if there is a way to have a couple of days off throughout the semester?
  - Provost Galely: What that would do is keep the MLK holiday break, which concerns us by having three-day holiday traveling. We thought of your suggestion and although it was a scheduling nightmare, it was achievable.
  - Senator Braeger: We have Mental Health Week where we could dismiss in the middle of the week, emphasizing mental health. Sandwiching those breaks in the middle of the week could discourage people to travel as well.

- VP Bachman: I understand this perspective, but with the Winter Break I would assume there is concern about students coming back from traveling. Can you talk a little bit about students coming back in large quantities like during the first week of school?
  - Provost Galely: Great question. We are minimizing the curve and hoping that we can keep that low up until the Thanksgiving Holiday. We are hoping we can do something similar in the spring so we can have one big reentry. Either there will be a reentry on January 11th or the 19th. My worry is if we sandwich dates is people blowing off classes? One day here and there is an option, but it is a little higher risk. We thought of taking the interim day and getting rid of it and thought of moving that to late March or early-April to give people a mental health day.

- VP Wilkey: I understand the push but would there be a possibility to move that week instead to the end of the semester and starting summer earlier?
  - Provost Galely: It was one of the options we looked at and there were a couple reasons we didn’t do that. The biggest was for faculty preparation. The other reason was to eliminate the MLK three-day holiday. And believe it or not, the wheel is already turning to make graduation happen. We just decided that this would be the lowest risk thing.

- VP Stevens: I just want to echo my support for what Senator Braeger said about coordinating a day or two break within Mental Health Week. Additionally, I think keeping commencement and staying in school means more to students than having a mid-semester Spring Break. So overall, I support this initiative.
  - Provost Galely: Please be aware this is a temporary recommendation. The faculty executive committee all agreed that we needed to keep students safe and this was one way to do it.

- VP Casdorph: I would propose taking the first few weeks of schools and taking Mondays off for the amount of days we have for Spring Break. This would be something consistent that students can plan their work schedules around and could be consistent.
Provost Galley: That is a lot of three-day weekends, which is a concern as well. If we do that, we could just try Spring Break and hope that it works.

President Ahmed: I support this idea. It is definitely a sacrifice but it will ensure safety and a commencement. Either way it is not going to be fun.

Provost Galley: Don’t consider this the end. If you have additional thoughts, please give them to Sami or send them to me. I do hear the angst and I’ll share that, but there is a need to deal with this right now so we can get schedules written into Banner.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

- Motion to table hearing board discussion and add a discussion on budgets:
  - *Motion: VP Stevens/Second: Senator Braeger/ Voting Body: Passed*
- President Ahmed: I am part of a stabilization committee regarding COVID, so if you have any questions or comments, please feel free to bring those to me. Those take place on Thursdays so bring those to me before then.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- No unfinished business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Discussion on Budgets
  - President Ahmed: We made the decision to give $85,000 of Howl revenue to Activities and take the remaining from Traditions and Series to have a COVID relief fund. Any officer can talk about that with me. The idea is that it will help buy more ropes or care kits or whatever we may need for activities and events. With those three additional changes, I entertain a motion to approve the budget with those changes.
  - *Motion: VP Stevens/Second: VP Wilkey/Voting Body: Passed*

**COUNCIL UPDATES**

- VP Stevens: I have been working with Director Arner to create a graphic for people to sign up to be a part of student fee board. Applications are open until September 23rd. Please share. I’ll probably send that over Slack and email. Senator Karras brought up the idea of having legislation to allow these meetings to take place over Zoom should the need arise. If you have input, you can reach out to him directly.
- VP Ha: First council meeting is tomorrow. We are also working on doing voter registration pushing with PR and Marketing. We want a big social media push with people like President Cockett and Justin Bean saying they’ve registered. The kickoff day will be September 22nd. A specific link will be provided for USU to participate in the Campus Cup. This is a competition among Utah schools. We also have Expedition Vote. Once the social media graphics are done, please share them. We are also pushing to get honor’s students more politically active.
- VP Casdorph: I sent out the feedback link for events. If you haven’t filled it out yet, please do. Applications are open for transfer and freshman students for different committees within student events and Blue Crew. They are open until September 12th and will be on the involvement website. Weeks of Welcome is going great. The final ad will be posted Friday by that I mean the second and third week. If you have anything that is
rescheduled, please let me know before then.

- VP Wilkey: Everything is going well despite not having athletics. We had our first HURD Committee Meeting. Right now, our directors are meeting with their four individual committees. We are working on our first activity that may have some changes. This is our Re-Watch Party where we watch an old game. For right now, we are trying to figure out a time to open committee applications to freshman. We will be working on a campout if we can get it approved.

- VP Diaz: We are working on Diversity Week which will be themed around Black Lives Matter. I will be meeting with my directors tomorrow to talk about our monthly clubs meeting and to work with my diversity director on Diversity Week. COSCO applications are open so please share that.

- VP Bachman: We had our council meeting with Service Council via Zoom yesterday. For confused members of the council on what they can and cannot do, I directed them to the Activity/Event Request. Next Thursday, we are having our Service Center Kickoff from 3-5 p.m. They will be telling students what service opportunities there are. SNAC is growing immensely; we have already given our 1,500 pounds of food today. If there are any improvements to SNAC that you can think of, please let us know. We currently have a pickup system where they order online, fill the order, and give it to them at a specific time. I would love feedback.

- VP Jensen: First committee meeting is tonight to discuss activities and plans for this year. We are working on plans for having a successful True Aggie Night despite the pandemic. We are also making plans for Homecoming.
  - VP Casdorph: Do you know what time Miss USU is?
    - VP Jensen: 7 o’clock on Tuesday the 8th at the Daines Concert Hall. It will be broadcast only. The only people in attendance will be family and invited guests. Please share that so people know they have to watch it online.

- Senator Braeger: We haven’t had our first meeting yet. We are still deciding whether or not we will have it in person or not. My director will be in charge of the council and the meetings. We have a few Blue Goes Green Grants out as well as working on stuff surrounding voting. I’ll CC Jenn Ha on that. We are also working on the Mural Walk. We will start getting a price quote and will be working on when the project will take place. Senator N. Braeger is looking for support on a Ted X Event in the spring, so I thought I would reach out to you all for help. The approach now is to get micro-donations from many different entities to meet the $15,000 goal.

- Director Arner: We have plans going out for Diversity Week. We are up to date on everything. My designers are working well with everyone so everything is great.

**ADVISOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Linda Zimmerman: Remember for weekly committee meetings, you still have to submit approval under the Events/Activity Application. You have to submit protocol on how you are going to keep meetings safe. Dr. Morales is very quick. If you have a meeting tomorrow, it should have been submitted today. If you need help, ask your advisors. Some of you haven’t done this. Remember for shared office spaces, there is maximum capacity and some of you have had more than capacity already.
• VP Wilkey: What is capacity for VP offices?
  • Linda: For most, only one more person. For bigger offices up to three. More than that you need to move to a table. After someone enters, a mask has to be put on. Talk to Kevin, he has specific capacity numbers.

• ADJOURNMENT
  o Motion: VP Stevens/Second: VP Casdorph/Voting Body: Passed

IN ATTENDANCE: President Sami Ahmed, VP Lucas Stevens, VP Jenn Ha, VP Porter Casdorph, VP Trevor Wilkey, VP Oscar Diaz, VP Kara Bachman, VP Chase Jensen, Senator Alex Braeger, Assistant Dexton Lake, Director Rachel Arner, Linda Zimmerman, Provost Frank Galey