EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 28, 2020 | 4:00 PM | USUSA Senate Chamber

CALL TO ORDER

Approval of Minutes: VP Lake: Moved / VP Rivera-Soto: Second / Voting body: Passed

Officer Accountability

PUBLIC FORUM

Amanda DeRito: I’m here with Ellis Bruch to share more about our timely warnings. The Clery Act came into existence after Jeanne Clery was raped and murdered in her dorm room. Her parents said they wouldn’t have sent her to that university if they had known what the crime statistics were, so they pushed for a bill that would require that to be disclosed.

Any university that receives funding from the government must “collect, classify, and count crime reports and crime statistics, maintain a 60-day daily crime and fire log open to public inspection, and submit annual crime statistics and publish an annual security and fire safety report. We also must provide educational programs to prevent crime, particularly sexual violence crimes, and issue campus alerts, including the Timely Warning Notices and Emergency Notifications. We have a website that explains this in detail: dps.usu.edu/clery.

When universities don’t comply with the Clery Act, they’re subject to up to $57,317 per violation. Universities get audited and sometimes fined, like Michigan State and Penn State. Michigan State received a fine of $4.2 million recently.

USU sends three different kinds of alerts: Code Blues (emergency notifications), Timely Warning Notices (which are now Crime Alerts), and safety alerts (which isn’t required but we like to send if it will increase the safety of our students).

The following definitions are verbiage from the Clery Act. Code Blues are sent when there’s a “significant emergency or dangerous situation poses an immediate threat to the health and safety of the community.” This could be a gas leak, a building fire, a tornado, an armed aggressor, etc. Most of these go through the Logan Police Department as soon as they hear something; they don’t wait to confirm it or get all of the details, because then it could be too late.

Crime Alerts (formerly Timely Warnings) include “potentially dangerous criminal situations on campus posing a serious or continuing threat,” such as burglary, sexual assault, and arson.
A safety alert covers anything else we decide to send.

“You must issue a timely warning for all Clery Act crimes that occur on your Clery Geography that are: reported to campus security authorities or local police agencies or considered by the institution to represent a serious or continuing threat to students and employees.”

Clery Crimes include criminal homicide, burglary (not auto burglary), aggravated assault, robbery, arson, motor vehicle theft, hate crimes, domestic violence, stalking, or any sex offences.

Clery Geography includes anywhere on campus, including residence halls, adjacent public property like the Logan Cemetery, and non-campus property (which is mostly fraternity and sorority houses).

Campus Security Authorities include USU Public Safety and USU officials with significant responsibility for student and campus activities, such as RAs and Res Life staff, Student Involvement, coaches, student club advisors, Title IX Coordinators, the student conduct office, and victim advocates.

“You must issue a timely warning for all Clery Act crimes that occur on your Clery Geography that are reported to campus security authorities or local police agencies and considered by the institution to represent a serious or continuing threat to students and employees.”

The most difficult situations to define are relationship violence.

Reports are made in several ways. Students report anonymously, report with limited information because they’re seeking support, or report to the police, even if they don’t know if they want to pursue.

We often have limited amounts of information, so to determine what our course of action involves us asking if the suspect is known, if they’ve been arrested, if they have a criminal or violent history, if there are other similar reports, if a crime was particularly violent or predatory (e.g., Use of GHB or Rohypnol used), the relationship of the victim and suspect and whether others are threatened, and if the event occurred within the last 30 days. The timeliness criteria can be very subjective, because we know serial offenders can act out over months and even years.

Timely Warning content includes “all information that would promote safety and that would aid in the prevention of similar crimes.” There can be no personally identifying information of victim, pertinent information about the crime (including the date, time, location, and nature of the crime), information about the suspect (if they’re sought), and risk reduction and prevention tips.

We send all of these alerts as emails, texts, and push notifications.

Our timely notices are sent out to comply with Clery, but also make our campus safe. We take this opportunity to educate students about sexual violence, including how to reduce risk and be an upstander. It’s important to us to increase transparency in the spirit of the Clery Act, to create trust that crimes are taken seriously, and to establish a culture of reporting where perpetrators can be held accountable.

Director Olds: Do you have the percentage of the student body who has download the Utah State Safe App?

Amanda DeRito: We don’t, but I know it’s around 3,000 just on the Logan campus. We know 15% is average, but we hope to get to 30%.

VP Low: Is the app being shared in new student orientations?
Amanda DeRito: Yes. It’s in all of the scripts.
If you have more questions later, just email me!

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Ahmed: VP Low and I are working on a leadership presentation for the students at Mount Logan Middle School for this Friday from 9:30-1:30, but the last hour is just lunch. If anyone would like to join us, let me know. It will basically be a fun event while covering leadership topics and teaching them about leading in college.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive VP Charter Changes

VP Lake: Last year it was policy that all charter changes had to be made in Executive Council, including senators. We changed the constitution to make that unnecessary, so AS members could change their charter in AS. Because I’m in both and all of my changes are verbiage, I decided to bore you instead of AS. I added the role of Academic Senate to the introduction of my charter.

The role of the Utah State University Student Association (USUSA) Academic Senate is to enhance the quality of Academic life for the students of Utah State University. This will be accomplished through legislation initiated from the Academic Senate and through direct advocating to University Administration, College Deans and College Administration.

I changed this last bullet to say “Chairman of the Logan Campus Student Fee Board.”

I added the rest of Paulina’s title, because it was missing.

I’m supposed to appoint a delegate not to the Tuition Review Committee because I’m the delegate to the Course Fee Review Committee.

Here it will say “Logan Campus Student Fee Board.”

I got rid of “Tier II” because there is no more tier II tuition.

Approval of charter changes: VP Lake: Moved / Senator Fry: Second / Voting body: Passed

Administrative Assistant Charter Changes

Assistant Kremnev: I just have a quick change: nowhere in the charter did it say when minutes were due, and since that’s a majority of what this position does, I figured I’d add it. It’s just this: “Minutes shall be available within 48 hours of each meeting.” That’s standard for public meetings and it’s the request of the Statesman.

We talked about the Chief of Staff change earlier, but the bureaucracy of that is kind of difficult; it needs to be changed in everybody’s directory and needs a new email address. Since we’re running out of time, I’m going to let someone else do that if they’d like to.

Approval of charter changes: VP Lake: Moved / VP Rivera-Soto: Second / Voting body: Passed
COUNCIL UPDATES

VP Low: This week series committee is working hard. We have Moonlight and Music on Thursday, featuring Erik Fogth’s band Squatchi.

Traditions Week starts Friday with PoBev and ends next Saturday with Mardi Gras.

VP Brain: We’re getting ready for planting season at the community garden, so we’re organizing that. If you need a service project for a big group, that is a very good fit.

VP Jessop: The ramps came, they’ve been built, and we’ll have them for our next True Aggie Night! They’re big boys, but we love them, and no one will fall off anymore. Our next True Aggie Night will be at the end of Traditions Week and they’ll be up!

Director Olds: When does Nate want that press release to go out?

VP Jessop: I’ll talk to him tonight in the exe meeting. It might be good to set up a time for all of us to meet.

Love a Donor Week is coming up after Traditions Week.

This week is Aggie Ski Night, put on by the Alumni Association, at Cherry Peak. I believe all students and alumni get a discount.

The Student Alumni Conference that I talked about is this weekend, so I’ll tell you all what I learn.

VP Patino: I’ve been meeting with all of the diversity club presidents to see what events they have. Almost all of them have big events this semester: BSU has Soul Foods in February, LXU has Fiestas Americas in March, and PSU has their big Luau in April. There’s just a lot of prepping for that.

In about two months we have the Global Picnic, so I’ve been reaching out and asking what their recipes will be and what they’ll be selling. The new officer will be in at that point, so that person will be helping me out big-time.

VP Lake: I’ve been excited for this update because I get to follow-up on some campaign promises. When I ran for my position, I got a council because mine was the only position without one. We’ve made some exciting changes: we’ve had flags added at the three-way at the bottom of Old Main, at the top of the hill we have flashing pedestrian signs, we were able to get a light on the northwest corner of Aggie Bullevard and 8th because it was really dark and unsafe there, and flags were added to the crosswalk by Tandoori Oven and USU Credit Union. This week we are recording our student fee videos that will be posted on the student fee page. I’m very excited that we were able to get this all done.

This week or the next week I have a meeting with lighting about the design they’ve been working on for the bottom of Old Main and that facilities enhancement money I received, so those will be added as soon as the snow goes away.

This week we are recording our student fee videos that will be posted on the student fee page. I’m very excited that we were able to get this all done.

I really appreciate everyone’s attention on Fee Board. We have a report made that addresses our concerns about the CAPS fee that will go to President Cockett on Friday. Make sure you get your Fee Board binders back to Sophia by the end of the week.
I encourage you to read the AS minutes, but I wanted to let you know that Arts is focusing on their dining situation. The Artist’s Block Café is being turned into advisor offices and the students are opposed. If you know anyone who can help, please reach out to Nathan.

**VP Rivera-Soto:** Happy second day of the Utah Legislative Session!

We don’t know what we’re lobbying for on Higher Ed Day, but I’ll keep you updated. My council started reaching out to legislators to schedule meetings, so if there’s anyone you want to talk to, just let me know.

I’m ordering the ice cream for Aggie Ice Cream Day. We have a meeting scheduled with the Lieutenant Governor for about 20-30 minutes. It’ll be a Q and A, not a lobbying day. If you have questions, send them to me please.

I’ve been working on getting a speaker for the Week of the Woman for like six months, and it turns out the woman we were working with no longer works with the speaker we were trying to schedule, but we didn’t know that until last week. I got in touch with someone else, so we’re hoping to finalize details. I know some of you have events that you want to add to the schedule, which I’m super excited about, so I’ll keep you all updated.

**Senator Fry:** We’ve been planning the last three events for the semester: we’ll have a pop-up social every month and we’ll just move around campus.

I’m meeting with some of the directors of the school of graduate studies about getting an email list. We thought about sending a form to collect them ourselves, but with the change that happens every year, we figure it would be a little cumbersome for the future.

We’re still working on Mental Health Week and purchasing items. I’ll update you on the schedule as we get closer.

**VP Tomlinson:** We’re playing San Diego State again on Saturday. It’s away, but we’re doing a watch party in the lounges before PoBev. We’ll provide pizza and we’re hoping it’ll get a lot of people to come and then stay for PoBev.

I’ve received feedback from about 125 students. It’s generally positive; the only concerns are usually resolved once they learn that it won’t be a permanent curtain.

Next Wednesday will be Spectrum Magic night. HURD Premium will be suspended for that.

Next Friday is our first gymnastics meet.

Next Saturday is the 50th anniversary of Wayne Estes. Depending on how things go, it could be the 600th win in the spectrum on that 50th anniversary, which would be great.

**Director Olds:** We sent an elections survey out yesterday through Dr. Morales’s mass email and we’ve been pushing it on social media. This is to get a baseline of peoples’ attitudes and feelings towards elections week, because two weeks before elections we’ll implement a 15-page marketing plan that we’ve developed with central marketing. We’ll send out the same survey after elections to gauge whether the campaign was effective. I’ll share that link on Slack, please share it so we have a substantial sample size.

We’ve been working with President Ahmed on the new scholarship in his name.

We’ve been working on VP Lake on the student fee videos. We’ve developed the scripts and we have shooting times this weekend.

We’ve been working with VP Rivera-Soto on getting assets for Higher Ed Day and distributing a survey on the smoke-
free campus she’s been working on.

We’ve been working with Senator Fry on prepping for Mental Health Week.

ADVISOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Linda Zimmerman: A reminder about Truth in Tuition: it’s March 11th at 11 in the ballroom. Inform your councils. We want as many students there as possible.

ADJOURNMENT

VP Rivera-Soto: Moved / VP Patino: Second / Voting body: Passed

IN ATTENDANCE: Linda Zimmerman, President Sami Ahmed, VP Dexton Lake, VP Braden Tomlinson, VP Cooper Low, Senator Jared Fry, Director Cameron Olds, VP Jenny Patino, VP Tarren Jessop, VP Paulina Rivera-Soto, VP Emma Brain, Assistant Anna Kremnev