

# UT Dallas Student Government

## *Senate Meeting Minutes*

### Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019

#### Call to Order

*Called to Order at 5:15 PM*

#### Roll Call

#### Approval of the Minutes

*Daniel moves to approve the minutes*

*Jacob seconds*

*Motion carries*

#### Approval of the Agenda

*Hope moves to add Saba Syed to the list of appointments and approve the agenda*

*Nikki seconds*

*Motion carries*

#### Announcements

- Danni: please get your Homecoming excuses in as soon as possible so that we can accurately review the excuses, especially if it's something that you may or may not get excused for

#### Visitors

Dr. Amanda Smith, Dean of Students, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs

Dr. Marilyn Kaplan, Associate Dean for JSOM

Kim Winkler, Associate Dean of Students

Colleen Dutton, Chief Human Resources Officer

- Consensual Relationships
  - If you're in a relationship with someone who is an employee, supervisor-type figure (for example, someone in your lab),
  - We take having an environment that fosters everyone to live and work in very seriously, so we want to make sure that having a safe relationship
  - My contact information is on the slides (in the slack), so feel free to reach out to me with any questions

#### Ex-officio reports

Briana Lemos, Director of Student Development

#### Officer reports:

President: Ayoub Mohammed (ayoub@utdallas.edu)

- Senate survey
  - Please complete it by this Friday at 5
- SG HQ
  - Be mindful with the resources available
    - The printer should only be used for SG-related things

Vice President: Hope Cory (Hope.Cory@utdallas.edu)

- Viva volunteer recap
  - Thanks for everyone who came to help; we volunteered at the Plano Animal Shelter
- Alternative Spring Break is a great option for people looking for volunteering events
  - If you're interested, let me know ASAP to get a fee waiver

Secretary: Stephanie Royer (stephanie.royer@utdallas.edu)

- Homecoming float building

Treasurer: Eric Chen (eric.chen8@utdallas.edu)

- Budget report
  - Monthly budget reports will be uploaded to our website, or just ask me if you have any questions

Judicial Board Chair: Danni Yang (Danni.yang@utdallas.edu)

- Nothing to report

#### Committee Reports

Academic Affairs Committee: Anna Straughan (ams170008@utdallas.edu)

- Take1Leave1 bookshelf
- Transfer equivalency tool

Communications Committee: Kyle Tupper (kyle.tupper@utdallas.edu)

- Trial suggestion box
- Potential daily boothing
  - Ultimately, we'd like to have the structure set up for next year's senate body to booth
  - For this year's senate, I'd like more frequent boothing
  - Any thoughts?
    - Jacob: I'd like to see more engagement with outside students
    - Danni: If we were to implement mandatory boothing in the future, students who are not attuned to boothing might need a training process
    - Kara: I like the idea of more frequent boothing, but I think daily is a little excessive—especially for people who work
      - Kyle: for every Senator, it would be roughly a 2 hour commitment every 6 weeks, and I think it's a necessary step to at least be more engaged with students and increase our recognition
    - Justin: would it be at the same time every day?
      - Kyle: TBD, we'd work out the logistics
    - Thomas: I like the idea, but to prevent diminishing returns we could try rotating days
    - Eric: *Point of Personal Privilege*
      - This conversation is important, but could occur outside of meetings

Graduate & International Affairs Committee: Tiancheng Hu (tiancheng.hu@utdallas.edu)

- Nothing to report

Legislative Affairs Committee: Thomas Hobohm (tsh180000@utdallas.edu)

- Election bussing volunteer sign up
  - On November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 9 am-5 pm we'll be taking people from Rec Center West to the Collin polls, so if you can volunteer to be a point of information and check if people are registered, please sign up
  - I will send you an email and a time by Friday

Residential Student Affairs Committee: Mathi Siva (mathi.siva@utdallas.edu)

- Breakfast with RSA
  - We'll be tabling in the ECSW parking lot, by phase 5 in order to target residents outside of the res halls
- UV Grills
  - Replacing coal with gas grills
  - We're currently looking at the logistics of the grills
- CCH Vending Machines
  - Currently in the process of installing them, so I'll let you know when they're finished

Student Affairs Committee: Neha Khan (neha.khan@utdallas.edu)

- Accessibility survey results
  - 118 responses
  - 91% didn't know what a report of barrier was, even though the accessibility committee said they solved this problem by putting it on more websites; to find it in a search engine requires typing in the exact verbiage
  - A lot of people said that getting temporary accommodations are a tedious and lengthy process

Technology Committee: Yilong Peng (yilong.peng@utdallas.edu)

- eLearning changes
  - The mobile version should work better by next semester
  - I suggested that professors should put all accessibility information in their eLearning because it's not easily found in many syllabi
- UTD app changes
- Reddit Gold
- UTD Hack-a-thon
  - November 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>
  - We're sponsoring a prize and some SG Senators will be prizes

Green Initiative Adhoc Committee: Genna Campain (genna.campain@utdallas.edu)

- Comet composting trainings
- Sustainable semesters topic
  - Energy!!
  - We're looking to book speakers
  - If you know of anyone interested in sustainability, please get the word out there

## Old Business

### New Business

- UTD App Survey and Drawing allocation

*Yilong moves to allocate \$400 for the UTD App Survey and Drawing*

*Ian seconds*

Discussion

- Yilong: OIT wants more feedback for the UTD app's design aesthetically and hardware-wise. This is a Qualtrics form that will be sent out to students, and the prizes are AirPods, movie tickets, and a buffer cost
- Questions:
  - Tiancheng: is OIT willing to sponsor any of the prizes?
    - Yilong: no
  - Danni: how do we know that students actually downloaded the app and aren't just putting down generic answers, and if not, can we actually view the responses and see if the winners put meaningful responses?
    - Yilong: we'll do our best to weed out nonsensical answers
  - Genna: could we take a day to booth to spread awareness of the survey?
    - Alex: OIT has a history of booting, and they always get the most responses when there're prizes
    - Yilong: we'll also mention the survey on the reddit thread; it works in conjunction with other projects we have
- Ian: Even with the buffer cost, I think that it won't be enough to cover the movie tickets
  - Yilong: Mahir did the research, and I think we're receiving a discount for bulk purchases on the tickets, and the AirPods are from the UTD bookstore
  - Kara: shouldn't we also cover the flyer costs?
  - Yilong: I have personal, free access to printing flyers

- Reddit Gold allocation

*Kyle moves to allocate \$19.99 for a Reddit Gold solicitation of project Ideas on r/utdallas*

*Yilong seconds*

Discussion

- Willie: Reddit is an important part of the UT Dallas community, and we've received good ideas, such as the CVS vending machines, from it. We'd like to offer a prize for project ideas.
- Questions?
  - Ian: Could you briefly describe what Reddit is for people who don't know?
  - It's an unofficial function and a platform for people can start a thread or comment on a thread with their concerns

*Paulina calls to question*

*Motion passes*

*Motion passes*

- OIT Hack-A-Thon allocation

*Lucas moves to allocate \$1150 for the 2019 Hack-A-Thon Sponsorship*

*Yilong seconds*

Discussion

- Yilong: we're sponsoring a portion of the OIT Hack-A-Thon for Fall 2019. The contest is to design an application that will work with VR systems to further education, and the prizes will be an iPad, Galaxy buds, and a buffer cost
- Questions:
  - Vignesh: wouldn't it be better to buy individual prizes for members of a group?
    - Yilong: yes, we should probably revise that
  - Danni: Could we allocate the money anyways, since it will be too late to table it for next meeting?
    - Yilong: yes, we should probably do that
  - Tiancheng: what have some previous prizes been?
    - Yilong: last year there were Nintendo switches for each person

*Kyle moves to amend the allocation to \$2,000 as a buffer cost*

*Yilong deigns this a friendly amendment*

*Motion passes*

- Appointment of new senators

*Hope moves to appoint Cameron Benavides, Rutendo Chando, Taha Hassan, Joel Ninan, and Saba Syed as new senators*

*Eric seconds*

*Motion passes*

#### **Closing Announcements**

#### **Adjourn**

*Danni moves to adjourn*

*Jacob seconds*

*Motion carries*