

Student Senate Minutes

November 16, 2005

- I. Roll Call**
- II. Invocation**
- III. Pledges of Allegiance**
- IV. Open Forum (Because of the sheer number of speakers, not all of the speeches are listed)**
 - A. Senator Faulkner**
 - 1. Teacher Excellence Award, open to any senior graduating by May 2006. Applications can be found at senate.tamu.edu. The teachers that win will receive \$2,000 and their school will receive \$1,000
 - B. Chair Smith**
 - 1. Initially, the bonfire bill was intended to simply recognize the hard work of the Bonfire Coalition. Any complication with current legislation was not intended with the bill. Scott will make an amendment to change the last clause. This bill has been formed into something that wasn't intended.
 - C. Hannah Wilson**
 - 1. SGA can give its approval for the bonfire coalition, so please keep the hope alive by voting yes for the bonfire bill
 - D. Andy Liddell**
 - 1. President of the Memorial Student Center – The student senate has more information about fees than does the average student. However, the senate must allow students to express opinions at the senate meeting. If he was a senator, he would spend more time on explaining why the senate does not pass fees, than why it does pass fees. It is easy to explain why the senate passes the Student Services Fees. Why? The SSFAB has done in-depth research to analyze each proposal, and they have made sure that each proposal is necessary.
 - E. Christina Hoffman**
 - 1. The library offers the undergraduates great resources. Thus, come by my office at any time to propose any changes that you want in the library. We only want to improve services for you.
 - F. Patrick Dugan**
 - 1. Chair of Bonfire Coalition – our goal is to bring bonfire back to the campus. We work through administration and current and former students. We do not support the off-campus bonfire, because of litigation
 - F. Tommy Ivy**
 - 1. Back in 2000, the Senate said it doesn't support any construction of any project that could damage students. There's great risks in off campus bonfire, because if somebody was injured, it would destroy bonfire forever. I beg you to vote against the bill.

G. Janna and Nick Santera

1. So many Aggies come together to beat the hell out of u.t. Aggies come together through off-campus bonfire. We are keeping the fire of Aggie Tradition alive.

H. Monica Olson

1. Talbot said – he does not agree with the proposal. Be careful in what you are proposing, because we do not want bonfire to be compromised. Passing the bill will not increase permission. Passing this bill will only get the university tied up with one more student organization. The number one goal should be getting bonfire back on campus, and only the administration can do that.

I. Alana Garcia

1. Off-campus bonfire will still build no matter whether or not the senate passes the bill. We do train the personal so that they know what they are doing, so that bonfire is safe. Our ultimate goal is to get bonfire back on-campus, and we do not want to have anything bad happen.

J. Daniel Wiesel

1. Daniel read an excerpt from an Old Ag: There is not one tradition on campus that is worth the life of a student. Bonfire created some bad contention, as there were different insults stirred up.

V. Special Presentations

A. Erik Adam – Design and review board – landscape architecture major – he will be representing student senate on the board - he would be asked to look over the architecture designs for new buildings on campus. He would be a student representative for SGA. SBP's nomination was passed.

B. Dr. Leigh Turner (Career Center, Director)

1. Current user fee is \$35, and it is only for people that use on-campus interviews. It's to provide Career Coordinators for all majors and to provide adequate operating funds. Operating costs have been increased by 13%. They have had to rely on non-renewable funds from gifts, reserves, TAMU Funds, and also Fee Revenues. Without the fee change, we will have to raise user fees up to \$50. Also, they would have to remove multiple positions. They would also have to drop out career coordinators, which means no in-depth career advising, reduced job development, and reduced career fairs. Also, technology would fall behind. We want create a \$12 fee, and it would adequately fund our current plans. Many other universities have more expensive fees than us. We lead the nation in on-campus interviews. We estimate that we serve 25,000 students a year. Two students presented in favor for the fee.

C. Questions:

- If the fee is created, will there be benefits for all majors, not just specifically business and engineer? Career Coordinators can connect other majors to job opportunities. It is our job to put you in touch with them.
- Does Texas and Texas Tech also include the Grad School advising, because I know that your figures do not? No, they do not. We can help you find graduate opportunities starting your freshmen year. We can help law students get in touch with attorneys.
- What is the percentage of undergrads that use their services? Most conservative statistic says that 41 % of interviews are seniors. Career advising was over 20,000 students.
- Is that number for all years or last year? Last year.

- Does this fee touch the former students? No, the \$35 fee is completely separate from the undergraduate annual fee.
- If there are more students that will come with the annual fee, will you then have enough money to support the expanded attendance? Yes, we have planned for that.

D. Jack Hooper (Student Service Fee Advisory Board (SSFAB), Chairman)

1. Presented final recommendations
 2. See the power point on ssfab.tamu.edu. There's a vote on November 30th concerning the SSFAB recommendations.
 3. Questions:
- Greek Life – what are the funds for? We've offered \$25,000 discretionary funds, which means that it is only for one year. Why do non Greeks have to pay? Other organizations have selective people, but we still make others pay for them. We feel that the \$25,000 will help the university as a whole in the long run.
 - In future presentations, will you persist that students cannot have say in some fees? Yes.
 - What is the total requested and granted? \$860,000 and granted was approximately \$500,000.
 - Point by Jack Hopper: with the read on the bill concerning SSFAB, I think the bill throws too much control into nine students' hands. I recommend that you vote it down.

VI. Old Business

A. S.B. 05(F) 7 - Aggie Family Safety Bill

1. This was presented a while ago, but the authors and committees have made some changes over the past summer and semester.
2. We've added new text. The bottom line of this bill is to put more than twenty organizations behind us in solving the problems at Northgate. University and College Station police are teaming up to take care of Northgate. There was a Department of Justice meeting tonight with individuals working on this bill, and they talked about future actions. The authors added information in red, which described exactly what happened with Senate and other SGA actions directed toward aggie family safety this past summer.

B. Questions:

- Clarify more of what is in red? We have more than 15 years of documentation of discrimination at Northgate, the red information is simply to describe what has caused the bill.
- Why did we take upon ourselves to work with this issue, I thought it was for the police department to work with? If an Aggie student is being discriminated against anywhere locally, we should take action to make sure that all students are welcome in the local community.
- Why is that red stuff in there!? The WHEREAS is just telling a story of what happened. It has nothing to do with what is going to be enacted.

C. Debate:

- Motion to strike second and third WHEREAS clause and the last LET IT BE ENACTED CLAUSE (the information in red)

D. Debate on motion:

- Senator Foley: I want it out because of CADY's. Amanda Lanning put CADY's in the bill to gain recognition.
- Pro Tempore Amanda: Everything that we added just supplements everything. If we take LET IT BE ENACTED out, it will destroy the purpose of the bill. I am not calling for you to support CADY's, we just want to present what the student task force is doing.
- Senator Kapav: The stuff in red is just extra, we don't need it.
- Senator Campbell: If you take away the LET IT BE ENACTED, you take away the support of SGA to the student advisory board.

E. Vote on Motion: Raising hand vote: Everything stays in the bill.

F. Vote on Bill: Bill passes.

VII. New Business (Minutes after point "A" were taken by Jessica Humphreys)

A. S.B. 05(F) 11 - Bonfire Bill

1. Introduction: Speaker Hailey – Spoke because he was passionate about this issue. He stated that he will only confront the Senate on issues of personal grave importance.
2. Second introduction speech: Senator Frenzel - Stated that he is pro-bonfire, bonfire was “an experience I will never forget,” and that the bill is more for support and thanks for the off-campus bonfire.
3. VOTE FOR EMERGENCY LEGISLATION: fails.
4. Questions on Bill

- VAN METER: being pushed forward because of the time frame
- FAUKNER: recognizing this could bring up legal issues
- SCOTT recognized DR JACKSON: recognized that it could
- BATHMAN: why is this important as legislation
- MAYFIELD: Why do they need to be thanked? They don't. This would be a thank you not and being recognized
- WEIZEL: Why is it necessary to thank them? Why not thank everyone?
This is not meant to be any but a thank you
This is not a support only a thank you
Why was this not brought forward earlier?
- Q AND A extended 3 times
- CAMPBELL: Asked about talking to constituents.

B. S.B. 05(F) 12 - Senate Accountability Bill

1. Authors: Frenzel, Crocker, Bathman; all constituents will be able to see how Senators voted by placing an archive on the internet.
2. Questions:

- NICHOLS: accuracy will be finalized committee
- PONTIUS: Where will this be posted? Not sure where or how.
- HILL: why is this way better? More secretive.

C. S.B. 05(F) 14 - Student Service Fee Referendum Bill

1. Introduced by Cory, Scott, and Campbell: Senate has to vote on SSFAB. We will write a referendum if the bill fails.
2. Debate: Berry moved to change wording. It was decided that it would be changed for the next meeting.

D. S.B. 05(F) 13 - 59th Session Reapportionment Bill

1. Adding more Senators because of new way of counting within each college
2. Bill passed.

E. S.R. 05(F) 15 - World War II Veterans' Aggie Ring Resolution

1. This resolution asked for the support of the Senate for supplying World War II veterans who did not get rings with proper class rings. The reason that the Veterans did not get their rings is because the university did not have the majors when the Veterans returned.
2. Resolution passed.

VIII. Reports

A. Jim Carlson (Student Body President)

1. Krystal Y'Barbo: Hanging out with visiting Aggies, HSCL is coming up, Diversity Symposium in Ruder Theater, SSFAB report, Inspiration Award, BEAT THE HELL OUT OF TU!

B. Will Hailey (Speaker of the Senate)

1. Health bill is going to the right people

C. Amanda Lanning (Speaker Pro Tempore)

1. Absences: must talk to her in the future by e-mail

D. Scott Smith (Student Services Committee Chairman)

1. Forum Transportation Services more at next meeting

E. Corey Nichols (Rules & Regulations Committee Chairman)

1. Meeting this Sunday at 5 PM

F. Jeff Murray (External Affairs Committee Chairman)

1. Meeting Sunday before the next Senate meeting, Bonfire issues

G. Frank Barat (Academic Affairs Committee Chairman)

1. Q-drop issue being considered by administration, meeting ad hoc committee would love attendance, Alison Morton and Frank will be creating another committee be seeking committee members

H. Jennifer Faulkner (Executive Director of Operations)

1. Not here, Ashlee spoke for her, Warm Up With Senate- sign ups November 30th and December 1st, Shirt and Name Tags

I. Kristina Campbell (Senate Whip)

1. No reports

IX. Open Session

A. November 30 is the last meeting.

X. Announcements

XI. Adjournment