



Meeting Minutes
Oakland University Student Congress
Thomas-Engnell Administration
Oakland Room, Oakland Center
Monday, February 28th, 2017



- I. Meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
 - A. Legislator Augustyniak present and voting
 - B. Legislator Church, present and voting
 - C. Legislator R Fox, present and voting
 - D. Legislator Harris, present and voting
 - E. Legislator Hubbard, present and voting
 - F. Legislator Jagtap, present and voting
 - G. Legislator Kleinschmidt, present and voting
 - H. Legislator Mabrouk, present and voting
 - I. Legislator Nasry, present and voting
 - J. Legislator Poppe, present and voting
 - K. Legislator Rafidi present and voting
 - L. Legislator Rourke, present and voting
 - M. Legislator Sanders, present and voting
 - N. Legislator Seeger, present and voting
 - O. Legislator Thompson, present and voting
 - P. Legislator Walton, present and voting
 - Q. Legislator T Fox not present
 - R. We had quorum
- IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 13th, 2017
 - A. Friendly amendment to spell Legislator Augustyniak name correctly
 - B. No additions or deletions
 - C. They were passed unanimously
- V. Comments from the Gallery
 - A. Ms. Hock announced that tomorrow the event Karaoke Lounge event would be happening. There will be food there, including sushi. Auditions for the SPB Talent Show will be in their office. The Talent Show will be in one month from today in the Dodge Hall Auditorium, room 201 at 7 pm. There will also be a scavenger hunt this semester, more details later. Students are welcome to form teams, there will be really cool prizes up for grabs.
 - B. Mr. Jeremy Johnson from the Diversity and Inclusion came back to hand out surveys for their survey. It will last one month, so please spread the word.
 - 1. Vice President Engnell said how vital the survey is.
- VI. No Guest Speaker
- VII. Old Business
 - A. C.B. 17-11 Drag show Co-Sponsorship, *Legislator R Fox*

1. Legislator R Fox briefly described the event, and why it's important. The price went up for the lights, however this company is still the cheapest. Mr. Naseem will describe the event change.

a) Mr. Naseem were doing a movie night instead, the event is still good. The company was charging, this is the cheapest, good investment, name out there.

2. Roll call vote

- a) Legislator Augustyniak yay
- b) Legislator Church, yay
- c) Legislator R Fox, yay
- d) Legislator Harris, yay
- e) Legislator Hubbard, yay
- f) Legislator Jagtap, yay
- g) Legislator Kleinschmidt, yay
- h) Legislator Mabrouk, yay
- i) Legislator Nasry, yay
- j) Legislator Poppe, yay
- k) Legislator Rafidi, yay
- l) Legislator Rourke, yay
- m) Legislator Sanders, yay
- n) Legislator Seeger, yay
- o) Legislator Thompson, yay
- p) Legislator Walton, yay
- q) Unanimous vote

VIII. New Business

A. Approval of Prospective Legislators, *Tamara Mabrouk*

1. Omar Salem

a) Legislator Mabrouk introduced Mr. Salem, saying that he's really motivated, and has a great initiative with free printing.

b) Mr. Salem said that his main initiative is to get free printing like the Honors College has, and they also have more scholarship. Parking is another issue that he wants to take, by having a survey on reserved spots to see if they are being used. The last initiative that Mr. Salem has is to get better furniture on Kresge's 3rd floor

(1) Legislator Nasry asked what committees he wants to be on.

(a) Mr. Salem said there are a lot of options, so he will have to consider.

c) Legislator R Fox said that Mr. Salem has some great ideas! There are four weeks left of this administration, so why go through this process instead of elections?

(1) Mr. Salem said he would try to be on Congress' next administration.

d) Legislator Thompson asked if Mr. Salem read the constitution and bylaws.

(1) Yes, he has skimmed them.

e) Vice President Engnell said they are no-where near done with parking, so it's good to have more people, he is willing to meet with him, and survey those spots.

f) Closed door session

(1) Ms. Kubinski explained why he isn't on the ballot, Mr. Salem missed the due date to announce his candidacy.

(2) President Thomas is in agreement with his plans, he does have some concerns with only having a month left, but stuff can still happen. Mr. Salem will also have the incumbent advantage.

(3) Legislator Mabrouk said that she has known him for a long time, they're both aware of only having a month left and are planning to go up next time. It'll be easier next time around, both have good plans, and will make a good fit.

(4) Legislator R Fox stated that his misgivings had been addressed and is interested in working with him. Printing should be a priority, it's sore spot with him.

(5) Ms. Jurva stated that Mr. Salem is walking in April, would he have the time to get work done?

(a) Legislator Mabrouk said that he's taking summer classes.

(6) Legislator Nasry said he may take post-bachelor classes.

g) Roll call vote

(1) Legislator Augustyniak, yay

(2) Legislator Church, yay

(3) Legislator R Fox, yay

(4) Legislator Harris, yay

(5) Legislator Hubbard, yay

(6) Legislator Jagtap, yay

(7) Legislator Kleinschmidt, yay

(8) Legislator Mabrouk, yay

(9) Legislator Nasry, yay

(10) Legislator Poppe, yay

(11) Legislator Rafidi, yay

(12) Legislator Rourke, yay

(13) Legislator Sanders, yay

(14) Legislator Seeger, yay

(15) Legislator Thompson, yay

(16) Legislator Walton, yay

(17) Unanimous

B. Nieem Alatassi

1. Legislator Mabrouk introduced Mr. Alatassi as well, explaining that she has also known him a while. Mr. Alatassi is a Health Science major, and is a person who is well motivated, and has wanted to get involved for a while. Legislator Mabrouk said that he has good initiatives, one about improving wifi that is has to do with the Companion app as well.

2. Mr. Alatassi said that he has been here four years, wished he would've joined earlier. Improving wifi is a big part of his initiative because society is on the internet so much, but some people don't have on the go data. He's not sure if it's the range or modems. The two biggest issues are parking and wifi on campus, he asked students when he was looking for signatures. The wifi is really bad outside of buildings. Another initiative that Mr. Alatassi is adding more weights, and room because there are so many people using them.

a) Legislator Fox said that wifi is a good initiative, and it's one that is feasible. For example, the entire downtown of Auburn Hills has wifi. Legislator R Fox also asked Mr. Alatassi if he had a plan of action because he also only has four weeks again.

(1) Mr. Alatassi has already started talking with IT about the costs, areas that are the worse, starting to get ready.

(2) Legislator Nasry asked which committees he is interested in joining?

(a) Mr. Alatassi said that the Diversity and Inclusion Committee and the Student Services Committee.

(3) Legislator Thompson asked if he had read the bylaws and constitution?

(a) Mr. Alatassi said yes.

b) Closed door disc

(1) Legislator Church asked if the Rec has already put more equipment in the Rec.

(a) President Thomas confirmed that they had.

(2) Ms. Mishack commented that she would vouch for him as she has known him a while. She also said that he is nice, smart, and can get his initiatives done!

c) Roll call vote

(1) Legislator Augustyniak, yay

(2) Legislator Church, yay

(3) Legislator R Fox, yay

(4) Legislator Harris, yay

(5) Legislator Hubbard, yay

(6) Legislator Jagtap, yay

(7) Legislator Kleinschmidt, yay

- (8) Legislator Mabrouk, yay
- (9) Legislator Nasry, yay
- (10) Legislator Poppe, yay
- (11) Legislator Rafidi, yay
- (12) Legislator Rourke, yay
- (13) Legislator Salem, yay
- (14) Legislator Sanders, yay
- (15) Legislator Seeger, yay
- (16) Legislator Thompson yay
- (17) Legislator Walton, yay
- (18) Unanimous

C. Approval of Validations Committee, *Madison Kubinski*

- 1. Students: Cassie Hock, Nate Catey, John McQuillen, Itzel Marroquin
 - a) Ms. Kubinski introduced the students of the validations committee, commenting that Ms. Hock and Mr. Catey had both been Legislator, Ms. Marroquin had been on her previous committee and Mr. McQuillen wants to get more involved.
- 2. Administrative Professional: Amy Ring-Cebelak
 - a) Ms. Kubinski introduced Ms. Ring-Cebelak, saying that she had been on OUSC during her undergrad and she is a huge fan of the organization and had helped on the Validations committee in this role before.
- 3. Clerical Worker/Technical worker: Lori Marsh
 - a) Ms. Kubinski said that Ms. Marsh is a familiar face to most of Congress as she works in the CSA and has also helped on the Validations committee in this role before.
- 4. Faculty Member: Terri Towner
 - a) Ms. Kubinski introduced Professor Towner as her current professor for her capstone, and she has previously served on committee as well.
 - b) All were unanimously approved

D. C. C.B. 17-12 Lend a Hand, Warm a Heart, *Luna Nasry*

- 1. This bill is something Ms. Nasry is passionate about, the Syrian conflict has been ongoing, refugees have been dispersed everywhere. This initiative will help raise awareness, and get coats for these people. The time of year makes this

initiative advantageous because people are getting rid of their winter coats. The coats will be going to the Syrian American Refugee Network. Legislator Nasry said that students will get swag in return, which will incorporate welcoming people from all ethnicities. Ms. Nasry stated that the coats must be less than the value of the coats.

a) Ms. Kubinski said that this initiative is reminiscent of one that Kat Cotton had done a year ago, Grizz Gives to Kids, she suggested handing out similar sweatshirts as last year with a catchy slogan. The initiative was successful last year, and she thinks that this one will be equally so.

b) Legislator Walton asked when this would start and end?

(1) Legislator Nasry said that this would start as soon as this bill is passed and would go until the first week of the April at the latest.

c) Legislator Jagtap asked if Legislator Nasry had considered expanding it at all.

(1) Legislator Nasry said that she, but she's wary that students may abuse it. Coats at this time are needed because refugees are dying of hypothermia, maybe next year it can be extended and expanded.

d) President Thomas said that this is a wonderful idea. The current budget is our budget for a while, you could continue this past April.

2. No further discussion.

E. C.R. 17- 04 Bereavement Leave Policy, Elijah Sanders

1. Legislator Sanders said that this resolution shows support to student who need it, and an extension be needed instituted, he hopes you support it.

2. Legislator Seeger commented that in the time he's been here only one professor who has offered it, he hopes it will help.

3. No further discussion.

F. C.A. 17- 01 Constitutional Amendment Bill, Ryan Fox

1. In the absence of Legislator T Fox, Legislator R Fox presented the bill. Legislator R Fox described the amendment process, first it goes to Congress, then the Student Body, then the BOT. These amendments do a few things, but mostly it increases the inclusion on campus. The graduate council would focus on their own issues, any student can be on that committee, but it will specific issues that affect graduate students. Student athletes would have a new spot on Congress so that athlete issues are heard. Finally, the Judiciary committee should not have legislators on it because they could be biased towards those who are on trial

2. President Thomas stated that these changes would be more specific in the bylaws. The graduate population would do better to represent these grad students Athletics would have their own representative because it would allow for more inclusiveness and representation. Also, there would be a better definition ex-officio, so it would read "by virtue of office." Finally, it would get rid of the

five legislator requirement, as most of our committees have more than that number in both legislators and non-Congress members. There will be continued discussion in the interim, which will most likely result in a slightly different bill.

a) Ms. Kubinski voiced her support of this bill, however also stated that she was concerned because these changes are coming so close to the elections. Furthermore, she stated that the last time the Constitution was amended it the Student Body voted it down because students said that they didn't understand the changes and there wasn't enough time to learn about them.

b) Ms. Mishack said asked if we aren't making graduates a rep and just a council, wouldn't there be a risk it isn't always filled. She also stated it would be better to be a graduate student, and thinks it should be in the requirements.

(1) President Thomas said that he thinks the leader of the committee doesn't have to be a graduate student, but this is where the bylaws come in. The goal would be to fill the position at all times. The logic of this is that there is no official graduate student congress, and that's why it would be a committee. However, if graduate student wanted to create their own body they could.

c) Ms. Mishack stated that staying consistent and having a graduate student position would be more helpful.

d) Ms. Shippy asked if anyone had talked to any grad students about this, to see if it was an actual issue.

(1) President Thomas said that it originated from a student concern. Tyler Parsons sent a really long email about this issue after he talked to his fellow grad students about it.

3. No further discussion.

G. Discussion Topics

1. None

IX. Legislative Updates

A. Greek Council Representative, *Vicki Harris*

B. On March 6th, Alpha Sigma Tau will be hosting the Second Annual Dancing with the Taus in Banquet Room B at 7-10pm. Tickets will be \$5 and proceeds will be going to HAVEN and 10% to the winner's choice charity. On March 7th, Alpha Sigma Tau will be having a fundraiser event at Panera, starting at 4 pm

C. Resident Hall Association Representative, *Blake Walton*

1. Thanks to those who came out to Humble Hearts week. Wednesday there will be an event addressing micro aggressions, by the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, it will be at 6:30 in the Honors College.

D. Updates related to Legislative Projects and Initiatives

1. Legislator R Fox said there was a j-board meeting last Wednesday over break. He said to keep up on hours, if he forgets to put the sheet up there's still the sheets on Grizz orgs.

E. Questions related to Legislative Reports

1. Legislator Nasry brought up that the microwave in Kresge was destroyed a while ago. Will we purchase a new one?

a) Ms. Polsinelli said that it came in today.

X. Executive Reports

A. Student Body President, *Zack Thomas*

1. Hello, and welcome back, break went too fast. Anders did a town hall with President Hynd and some members of his board, it had a lot of student interaction, great stuff happened over food. The event addressed a lot of student concerns. President Thomas said that he had a meeting with Sydney Herman to talk about the bill dates and how that's going. President Thomas also said he is trying to get a student rep on the budget committee. It doesn't talk about finance in committees is non-existent proposals, we need to know that stuff before it's on the senate floor. State of the student body, next Monday Gold Room C. Housekeeping items: he will give advice to those who are running.

B. Student Vice President, *Anders Engnell*

1. Mr. Engnell said that thanks to the task force spring break may change in about three years. The bear bus ridership went from 25% to 34 riders. Retreat is this week, OUSC will go over everything that happened, bonding over pizza, and try to plan initiatives next year.

C. OUSC Advisor, *Stephanie Jurva*

1. Hi, hope you had a good break, it was quiet around OU without any students here. Leadership and Awards is coming up, the nominations will start on March 1st.

D. Updates related to E-board Projects and Initiatives

1. Mr. Naseem asked if we were not able to get a room for retreat?

a) Vice President Engnell said that Lake Michigan was reserved.

b) Ms. Polsinelli emailed the Congress about registration for OU Day at the Capital. Flyers for classrooms, presentations are appreciated. Thanks to Legislator T Fox for the help.

c) Ms. Kubinski reminded the Congress that talk about elections should not occur in meetings or in the office. Also, that there have been complaints sent to her about only having one ticket, and if anyone talked to them about issues to please pass along her email or Adviser Jurva's email so they can address them in a uniform way.

E. Questions related to Executive Reports

1. None

XI. Comments from the Gallery

A. None

XII. Announcements

A. Legislator Jagtap said that her organization is having a bowling fundraiser this Friday from 7-10, \$21 bowling, pizza, and pop, and a chance for a \$100 gift card.

XIII. Adjournment at 5:19pm