



Meeting Minutes
Oakland University Student Congress
Thomas-Engnell Administration
Lake Michigan Room, Oakland Center
Monday, September 12, 2016
4:00 P.M.



- I. Call to Order
 - A. Meeting was Called to Order on Monday, September 12th, 2016 at 4:03pm
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
 - A. Legislator Fox, present and voting
 - B. Legislator Kubinski, present and voting
 - C. Legislator Mabrouk, not present
 - D. Legislator Nasry, not present
 - E. Legislator Poppe, present and voting
 - F. Legislator Saadat, not present
 - G. Legislator Sanders, present and voting
 - H. Legislator Rourke, present and voting
 - I. Legislator Harris, present and voting
 - J. Legislator Walton, present and voting
 - We had quorum
- IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 22nd, 2016
 - Vice President Engnell said, *"I would like to entertain a motion at this time to change the Approval of the Meeting Minutes from July 11th to August 22nd."*
 - Legislator Kubinski said, *"Motion moved."*
 - Legislator Fox seconded the motion
 - Vice President Engnell opened the floor to discussion on the motion
 - There was no discussion
 - Show of Hands Vote
 - The motion was unanimously approved
 - The agenda was changed for the approval of Meeting Minutes from August 22nd
 - Vice President Engnell opened the floor to changes, additions, and/or comments to the Meeting Minutes from August 22nd
 - There were no changes to the Meeting Minutes from August 22nd
 - Raise of Hands Vote
 - The Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved
- V. Comments from the Gallery
 - Ms. Hock, President of the Student Program Board and liaison to the Board of Trustees, said that Bubble Soccer signups go live today at 5:00pm, and the registration form can be found on GrizzOrgs, or on the SPB Facebook page; the grand prize is \$500 for the winning team. Next Friday, September 23rd, the Student Program Board is doing Toga at the Tower for Homecoming Weekend, and there's a link on how to make a toga on the SPB Facebook page. Additionally, signup for Wheelchair Basketball is opening sometime next week, and the winner team will be awarded a cash prize.

- Vice President Engnell opened the floor to further Comments from the Gallery
- There were no further Comments from the Gallery

VI. Guest Speaker

A. Shaun Moore, Director of e-Learning and Instructional Support

- Mr. Moore said that starting in January of next year, Moodle will have the option for students to enter in a preferred name, an option that is currently available on SAIL. He continued onward to say that he is before Student Congress today because he wants to get the student option on how the preferred name should appear on Moodle, because currently when students post a comment in a discussion board, submit an assignment, and so on, the students' first and last names appear. However, Moodle can be altered so that the preferred name can operate in a number of ways, such as having the preferred first name and legal last name, with no legal first name included, or it could also have the legal first name, the preferred name in parenthesis, and the legal last name, or vice versa (preferred name, legal name in parenthesis, and the legal last name). Thus, there are several different options as to how this preferred name can appear, and Mr. Moore came to our meeting to seek student input on this matter.
- Vice President Engnell opened the floor to discussion and questions
- Mr. Queen inquired as to whether "there's any precautions that you guys are taking for students who may see this as a joke?"
 - Mr. Moore replied to Mr. Queen, saying that anyone can enter into SAIL and put anything for a preferred name, and any inappropriateness or misconduct with this preferred name policy will be handled through the Dean of Students. However, this isn't going to be something that has strict policing, for example, curse words aren't flagged. Thus, the professor, or perhaps another student, would have to alert the Dean of Students as to any inappropriate names.
- Legislator Kubinski inquired as to whether Mr. Moore was in contact and speaking to Grace Wojcik from the CSA regarding preferred name because "she usually handles anything to do with gender and sexuality, and she has been a big component of preferred name."
 - Mr. Moore replied to Legislator Kubinski, saying, "No, I have not spoken to Grace, but I am open to any opinions from anyone." He continued onward to say that he does have an Advisory Committee composed of students, faculty, and staff, so they do receive opinions and input from that group. He continued onward to say that he would be happy to reach out and speak to Grace about the preferred name policy.
- Legislator Kubinski continued onward to suggest to Mr. Moore that she thinks speaking with anybody in the Women and Gender Studies Program would also be beneficial. Additionally, she suggested that only the preferred name and legal name should appear because this way, no one would be "outing" himself/herself, which having a legal first name in parenthesis would be doing.

- Vice President Engnell said that we have been fighting eight years for a preferred name policy for specifically our transgender, international, and survivors of sexual assault students. He continued onward to say that students who identify as transgender would be able to use the preferred name in class, “so, to have the real name there, would out them as a transgender student in class. So, the goal would be to keep just the preferred name there” and not include the legal first name, as well.
- Mr. Moore said that he understands the importance of not wanting to “out” students, but he would like to point out that not having a legal first name provided gets tricky when faculty members are grading because without having the legal first name, they may not be able to recognize certain students when they’re entering grades.
- Legislator Rourke said, “So, on MySAIL, do you have the ability to go on and change the name right now?”
 - Mr. Moore replied to Legislator Rourke, saying, “You can change your name, yes. The goal is to apply this change in January to Moodle.”
- President Thomas said that he would like to echo the sentiment of only having the preferred name provided because the whole idea behind the preferred name policy is to avoid outing transgender students, and to help international students and survivors of sexual assault. “So, we don’t want other students in the class, at the very minimum other students at the class, to be able to see the preferred name and the legal name. So, I think that’s the, unless anyone disagrees [no one in the Congress disagreed], that’s the unanimous opinion of the Congress.”
- Mr. George inquired as to whether Moodle could be programmed a certain way so that only faculty members could have access to both the preferred name, as well as the legal name, so that they could implement grades easier.
 - Mr. Moore replied to Mr. George saying, “So, it is not a deal breaker if it’s just preferred name and last name. By that I mean that there’s always going to be an email address that faculty can match up to the actual name.” He continued onward to say that he is meeting with faculty members on September 30th to discuss the preferred name policy with them and obtain their opinions on how the names should appear in Moodle.
- Mr. George asked if students were able to change their last names, as well as their first names.
- Mr. Moore said that preferred name applies only to the first name. He continued onward to say that President Thomas and Vice President Engnell have his contact information (samoore@oakland.edu), and he is open and would welcome any other comments and appreciates any feedback.

VII. Old Business

A. C.B. 17-03 Judiciary Bylaws, *Ryan Fox*

- Legislator Fox said that as Judiciary Chair, it’s his responsibility to ensure that the Judiciary System of Student Congress functions, and part of making this happen is by ensuring that everything that we do is constitutional. Thus, this

first bill deals with a number of Bylaws that currently exist and directly contradict with the Constitution, specifically in terms with the Judiciary Committee and the way in which it's supposed to function. He continued onward to say that issues of constitutionality always goes directly to the court; they don't get filtered through the Judiciary Committee. Essentially, this bill is removing the Bylaws that contradict the Constitution.

- Vice President Engnell opened the floor to discussion
- There was no discussion
 - Roll Call Vote
 - Legislator Fox, yea
 - Legislator Kubinski, yea
 - Legislator Poppe, yea
 - Legislator Sanders, yea
 - Legislator Rourke, yea
 - Legislator Harris, yea
 - Legislator Walton, yea
 - C.B. 17-03 Judiciary Bylaws Bill was unanimously approved (in 45 seconds!)

B. C.B. 17-04 Judiciary Guidelines, *Ryan Fox*

- Legislator Fox said that one of the responsibilities of the Judiciary Chair is to outline Judiciary guidelines of how the court functions; this bill essentially establishes timelines and ensures the functionality of the Court. He continued onward to say that there are different liberties that can be taken, depending on the way in which the guidelines are written. For example, there's an option to have the Judiciary Chair be a voting member on the Court, but since the Court is composed of either three or five Justices, under this bill, the Judiciary Chair is a nonvoting member who simply mediates the meetings. This bill also establishes an Appeal Court.
- Vice President Engnell opened the floor to discussion
- President Thomas said that he's excited to have a "fully functional Judicial Branch."
- There was no further discussion
- Roll Call Vote
 - Legislator Fox, yea
 - Legislator Kubinski, yea
 - Legislator Poppe, yea
 - Legislator Sanders, yea
 - Legislator Rourke, yea
 - Legislator Harris, yea
 - Legislator Walton, yea
 - C.B. 17-04 Judiciary Guidelines was unanimously approved
- Vice President Engnell said, "For the first time in many years, we have a Judicial Branch, which means, if we would like to look like the American government, we've got our third branch."

- Legislator Kubinski said, “Point of clarification, we had one last year, which was functioning.”
- Vice President Engnell said, “It was functional, but we have now cleaned up Bylaws.”

VIII. New Business

A. C.B. 17-05 Tailgate Budget Addition, *Vicki Harris*

- Vice President Engnell reminded Congress that the tailgate is on September 24th from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. He encouraged everyone to either volunteer, or to attend. He continued onward to say, “This bill, if approved next Monday, would be approved before the tailgate.”
- Legislator Harris said that this bill is to cover some additional costs of the tailgate, specifically tables and generators.
- Vice President Engnell opened the floor to discussion
- Legislator Fox inquired as to whether the tables are being purchased or rented.
 - Legislator Harries replied to Legislator Fox, saying, “We’re renting tables.”
- Legislator Fox inquired as to what the generators will be used for.
 - Legislator Harris replied to Legislator Fox, saying, the generators are going to supply the power for the slushy machine, cotton-candy machine, air-brushed tattoos, and DJ.
- There was no further discussion

B. Approval of Student Services Committee, *Margaret Merogi*

a. Madison Kubinski

- Ms. Merogi said, “Legislator Kubinski has some awesome ideas about It’s On Us, and I would love to have her on my committee, so we can work on this together.”
- Vice President Engnell opened the floor to discussion
- There was no discussion
- Show of Hands Vote
 - Legislator Kubinski was unanimously approved

C. Approval of Steering Chair Committee, *Luna Nasry*

b. Anders Engnell

- Vice President Engnell, speaking on behalf of Legislator Nasry, said that he will be on the Steering Chair Committee, if approved. He continued onward to say that if anyone else would like to be on the committee, to contact Legislator Nasry.
- Vice President Engnell opened the floor to discussion
- President Thomas said, “I may be a little biased, but I really like Vice President Engnell. I think [that] you should vote yes.”
- There was no further discussion
- Show of Hands Vote
 - Anders Engnell was unanimously approved

IX. Discussion Topics

- There were no discussion topics

X. Legislative Updates

A. Greek Council Representative, *Vicki Harris*

- Legislator Harris said that if anyone wants to volunteer at the tailgate, please talk to her after the meeting, or email her. She continued onward to thank everyone who came and participated in the Meadow Brook Walk. On Wednesday, September 14th, there's going to be a Popsicle stand from 11:00 to 2:00 between the Oakland Center and Bear Lake. On October 1st, there's going to be the annual Kicks For Kids Event at the Auburn Hills Civic Center. In order to participate, it's \$10.00 per person and there's 10 people per team.

B. Updates related to Legislative Projects and Initiatives

- Legislator Kubinski said that she has been talking with Legislator Fox and they are going to be making sure that everyone is completing their office hours. She continued onward to say that she wants to meet with everyone individually and just check in on how everyone is doing with their projects and initiatives. She said that she has a lot of experience, and would be more than happy to answer any questions or help anyone with their projects. Additionally, Tyler Oakley is coming to campus on October 5th, and Student Life Lecture Board is looking for volunteers. If anyone is interested, he/she can contact either Hannah Clark or herself. The tickets don't cost money, and there's a limit of three tickets per person. However, they're trying to reach out to the high schools, so families can pick-up more than three tickets so that their entire family can attend, if desired. Also, he will only be signing his book, and nothing else.
- Legislator Fox said that as the Judiciary Chair, he has two main responsibilities: ensure that the legislators are doing their office hours and make sure that legislators attend the general body meetings. He said that if anyone misses three meetings, then he has to put him/her up for removal. "Although I do not have any sort of constitutional hammer to bring down when it comes to hours, you will bring down my wrath, which I promise that you do not want. So, please make sure that you're doing your hours every week." Additionally, there's going to be a page on GrizzOrgs and paper form on the front desk of the OUSC office, which legislators can log their hours on. He continued onward to say that last year he was able to purchase lost and found bins for the dorm complexes, but they still need to be implemented. Thus, they're not fully functional, yet, but he's working with the RHA to make them happen.

C. Questions related to Legislative Reports

- There were no questions

XI. Executive Reports

A. Student Body President, *Zack Thomas*

- President Thomas said that we were really active and engaging with students at the Involvement Fair, New Student Orientation, Grizz Fest, the SAFAC Open House, and What You Should Have Learned in High School. He said that there has been an overwhelmingly positive first impression, and a part of that first impression comes from the different initiatives that we've worked on as a team this summer. Both Vice President Engnell and him have been receiving a lot of positive feedback

for the different things that were achieved over the summer, including the preferred name policy and accessibility. He continued onward to say that he has observed many students benefitting from the corrected crosswalks, which seems like an unexciting change, but “makes a world of a difference for our injured athletes and for our students with disabilities, especially mobile handicaps.” He said that there is still work to be done with Varner Hall, but that we will hopefully see progress with that. Additionally, student employees should now be seeing the benefits of the minimum wage because the university minimum wage was increased from \$8.50 to \$9.25. Moving forward, Ms. Polsinelli is still working hard to get students registered to vote, both through TurboVote and paper registration forms; we were able to register approximately 150 students so far since the summer. He continued onward to say that he will be scheduling an E-Board meeting, one-on-one meetings, and SAFAC meetings in the near future.

B. Student Vice President, *Anders Engnell*

- Vice President Engnell said that Legislative Chair Reports will begin next week and he needs them by 5:00pm on Friday. Additionally, legislators need to schedule one-on-one meetings with him.

C. Updates related to Executive Projects and Initiatives

- Advisor Jurva said that he graduate assistant, Rebecca, started today and is here to help all of the organizations, so if we need anything, we can seek out either Rebecca or herself.
- Mr. Queen said that he is no longer looking for any additional members on his committee and that he will put the members up for approval next week. He continued onward to say that the Grizz Art Initiative will be expanded into the Oakland Center, and that the Oakland Center will provide the tracks for the artwork, so we only have to pay for the hangers. Additionally, he will be sending out another doodle for availability for a group photo shoot, but he will be taking individual photographs today after the meeting, so everyone needs to stay after and get his/her picture taken.
- Ms. Merogi said that she has recently received three student concerns, and two of them had to do with Chartwells. One of the concerns regarded there not being enough vegan options in the cafeteria for those that live in housing. She resolved this issue by sending an email to the chef, ccing the student, so hopefully that will get a change started. The second concern regarded transfer meals for housing students; students used to be able to swipe their card more than once during a meal period if they’re using a transfer meal. However, there’s a new rule that only allows students to swipe their cards once during a meal period. She hopes to resolve this issue soon.
- Ms. Polsinelli said that there will a SAM conference on October 1st and 2nd, so if anyone would like to go, he/she needs to email Ms. Polsinelli as soon as possible because she can only take one or two people.

D. Questions related to Executive Reports

- Legislator Kubinski asked, “Where is the SAM Conference?”
 - Ms. Polsinelli replied to Legislator Kubinski, saying, “Eastern Michigan.”
- XII. Comments from the Gallery
- Mr. Seeger asked what the university plans to do with the old cafeteria space on the first floor. Additionally, he inquired as to whether there are any student liaisons to Chartwells because students have suggested that the café in the library should be opened for longer hours, especially during exam week.
 - President Thomas, “You asked for if there was like a liaison to Chartwells, I know that the Residence Hall Association has a Chartwells Committee, and so you can talk to Legislator Walton probably after the meeting. And he can get you in touch with the committee, or the proper people to talk to.”
 - There were no further comments from the gallery
- XIII. Announcements
- Legislator Fox said, “Just so everybody know, if anybody in the gallery needs to register to vote, we can do that for you. Please come register to vote, it’s very important. And then secondly, and also, if you have a smartphone, make sure to download Vote Spotter because Voter Spotter is an awesome app and you should totally get it. It lets you keep up-to-date on what your representatives are doing, as well as both the state and the national Congress, so please consider it.”
 - There were no further announcements
- XIV. Adjournment
- A. Meeting was adjourned at 4:48pm