

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT
GENERAL MEETING
February 17, 2019**

Preliminary Items

a. Roll Call

i. Present:

1. Adam Barker, Speaker
2. Tiffany Middlemas, Student Representative to the Board of Governors
3. Laura Bates, Director of CSI, Staff Advisor
4. Katie Alexander, Academic Affairs Chair
5. Shania Montufar, Women's Leadership Conference Chair
6. Rachel Holt, External Affairs Chair
7. Jared Kolok, Environmental Affairs Chair, ESFAC Representative
8. Adam Paris, Student Affairs Chair
9. Chantelle Wimms, Diversity Chair
10. Caroline Costello, Sexual Assault Prevention Designee
11. Jade Harrison, Public Relations Director
12. Hannah Wissler, Purple Friday Chair
13. Lauren Hogan, Treasurer
14. Sam Tillman, Secretary
15. Deanna Schmidt, Vice President
16. Keaton Leppanen, President
17. Doug Adolphson, Voting Senator
18. Lizzie Cremer, Voting Senator
19. Maddie Meyer, Voting Senator
20. Rachel Owings, Voting Senator

b. Approval of Minutes

c. Gallery Introductions/Business

d. Membership Appointment/Resignation/Removals

- i. Appointment of Chisom Onyekwere to Associate Senator on Student Affairs (Leppanen)**

1. Approved

e. Oath of Office

f. Changes to the Agenda

Auxiliary Reports

a. Speaker of the Student Senate

b. Student Representative to the Board of Governors

- i. There is a BoG email**
- ii. Questions:**

1. Next year will be the BoG search, if you're interested, talk to Tiffany

c. Faculty Advisor

d. Staff Advisor

- i. If you did not get to go to the President's address, I highly recommend that you watch the recording. The recording is a Panopto version, and it is being edited to get a higher audiovisual quality, another version will probably be sent out eventually.
 - ii. There is an active job posting for Vice President of Enrollment Management and Marketing, because Regina Morin is retiring at the end of this contract year. If you are intrigued as to what the details are go to hr.truman.edu. A search committee was formed, and if you are interested who is on it, talk to me.
 - iii. In the same vein, due to the continued collaboration with SEM and SME (the two marketing firms we are consulting), Regina's position (which is as of now Vice President of Enrollment Management) is now being merged with overseeing areas of marketing.
 - iv. Melody Chambers, the current Director of Admissions, is retiring on Friday. Given the continuing decrease in enrollment, the candidate search for this position should be an area of interest for you all. Regina will take over Melody's duties for the time being, and there will be a farewell for Melody on Friday from 3-5 p.m. at Ruth W. Towne
 - v. Dir of ResLife candidates coming to campus relatively soon - I will be likely looking for someone to go to lunch for 3 days - I will put this out officially over the listserv when sched is approved
 - vi. This week alone I had 5 convos w student groups about moving furniture in the sub - if you have a problem with the room, call the building manager, but if they say don't move stuff, DON'T DO IT
 - vii. The furniture/equipment is expensive and/or heavy, you can hurt yourself and break stuff
 - viii. Questions:
 1. Hogan: where can people find copyright things for movies:
 - a. If you're showing it publicly, i.e. not for a class/on a syllabus. Different movies have different rights. Swank is the company we work with, so start there. The moment you reserve a space and advertise it, you need to secure rights.
- e. Academic Affairs Chair**
- i. I am meeting with Sodexo to plan the banquet for Educator of the Year. I already have received responses from 6 of the nominated professors! The deadline for those is next Tuesday, so it won't be long before we start reviewing them.
 - ii. If anyone has connections with McNair or Pershing scholars, we need representatives from them for the selection committee.
 - iii. Course Threads: I am presenting at UGC Thursday - if you have a burning desire to write one, specifically on a science or fine arts topic, let me know!
 - iv. I had a meeting with Jack Holcomb, he had some great ideas on the Freshman Guide. I hope to get the editing process going soon.
 - v. I also had a meeting with Dr. Gooch, on the subject of credit/no credit options she told me that faculty wrote a resolution years ago saying they want to know when students take a class for no credit. I'm not really a fan of that, and I do know that Student Government wrote a resolution opposing the faculty resolution.
 - vi. Commencement speaker applications open tomorrow! They are open until April 5.
 - vii. Questions:
 1. Bates: Who from McNair have you contacted?
 - a. I couldn't really find an email for a particular person, so I emailed the general email.

- t.** Legislative Director
- u.** Parking Appeals Committee Chair
- v.** Purple Friday Subcommittee Chair
 - i. We had a slight issue with the reservation and the place, but it worked out! We also used up all our supplies!
 - ii. Our next committee meeting will focus on what we can do for service-type events.
 - iii. Our next event will be either March 22 or 29 (because #missouriweather).

Executive Reports

- a.** Treasurer
 - i. No report
- b.** Secretary
 - i. No report
- c.** Vice President and President of the Student Association
 - i. We highly recommend you watch the University Address, everything about it was great!
 - ii. The Dialogues: some interesting developments! After some discussion at the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and among President Thomas, Provost Gooch, and Dr. Alberts, there is now a new resolution going before faculty governance this week on the Dialogues. Basically, this bill gives us everything we wanted! It is just a draft right now, but it calls for implementation of the Dialogues in phases, the first part of which would be the Self & Society Seminar and the Health & Wellness Requirement. Everything else, including the Symposium, would be delayed for further improvements.
 - iii. Read over the resolution, and if you have any additional comments, send them to us.
 - iv. Come to the meeting! There will be a joint session of Faculty Senate and UGC on Thursday from 5-6 p.m. specifically for this bill, after the regular UGC meeting from 3-5. Both meetings will be in the SUB Alumni room.
 - v. Our meeting with President Thomas was mostly about this resolution, but we did get to talk a little about administration communication/visibility, and that will be the focus of our next meeting.
 - vi. TEDx: We can create a committee and designate a chair for the next TEDx event! If you are interested let us know ASAP. Katie will be able to help the future chair.
 - vii. There are multiple marketing firms working with us; SME is addressing branding, SEM has given advice on the website. SME will be talking about our logo, colors, etc., and Dr. Stoskopf wants 4-6 members of Student Government to give the official student opinion on these. It will be fairly small time commitment, if you are interested tell us NOW. This is a really cool opportunity, we encourage you to do this!
 - 1. Bates: These committees are focus groups, they will be in early March and will have a few more members in addition to you all.
 - viii. Last call for Stu Gov Volleyball! We already have a dream team, but it could get dreamier! *Deanna makes a dreamy face*

- ix. Stu Gov Dinners: Our only options are Ryle or the SUB, which one is better?
Straw poll results in a tie Ok, for tomorrow we'll be at Ryle, after that we may alternate.
- x. Questions:
 - 1. Kolok: When are the survey results going to be available?
 - a. Hopefully by ExComm this week.

New Business

- a. Discussion Item: Presidents' Roundtable Part II- Truman Culture and Mental Health (Leppanen)
 - i. We had some great discussions at the Presidents' Roundtable, I'd love to hear all of your thoughts!
 - ii. Discussion:
 - 1. Montufar: The two things that I remember are UCS specific.
 - a. First is the fact that you can't book appointments with them online. I've gotten varied responses as to why you can't make appointments online. On the website, it says that time slots fill too quickly, but I'm not sure if that's a valid reason. I know a lot of offices on campus have online appointment systems, so why not.
 - b. Second, I don't like that there isn't a pairing system for students and counselors. I made an appointment about a month ago, and I found the process weird, because when I was talking to the counselor, it was sort of like, "I guess you're with me?" It didn't feel like an organized process.
 - 2. Wimms: I think we should force professors to give excused absences to students who have interviews and other appointments at the career fair. For some, this is a prime opportunity to find a job, so we should make sure they get that opportunity.
 - 3. Wissler: After going to the JED Town Hall and listening to University Address, it does seem clear that administration and faculty are taking steps to address the systemic issues related to mental health. While there are still problems, I feel like we're in a decent spot.
 - 4. Holt: From University Address, I heard that we had 17 percent of survey respondents say they had suicidal thoughts, which is way too high. I feel like we need to create better resources for students to deal with suicidal thoughts. I would be interest to see statistics on how many people call the UCS hotline.
 - a. Bates: The challenging part of the after hours hotline is that you get directed to the Adair County central dispatch, so they call a counselor and then the counselor calls you back, which can be a bit awkward because then a caller has to tell the dispatcher that they need to talk to a counselor.

- b. Hogan: I would ask William Nelsen in ResLife how many people reach out to ResLife staff rather than calls to the hotline. I think that might be a good measure of how much of a problem this is.
 - 5. Montufar: I've never seen peer counseling advertised much around campus, and I feel like that would be a good resource because the counselors are people students can relate to better.
 - a. Bates: Positive Peers (which does the peer counseling) is not an official student organization, and they are not licensed counselors, so we can't advertise them as a counseling service. It's in a sort of no-man's land in legal terms. I also think there's a misconception as to what the word "counselor" means. Schmidt: Joe and others have been talking about reimagining what a TTS is.
 - 6. Wissler: Someone at the JED town hall asked why we are trying to change the definition of TTS instead of just getting rid of it. I like the idea of changing it more, because right now it's kind of polarized; in reality it's very negative, whereas we want it to be very positive. Somewhere in the middle is probably good. I think trying to get students to see a different definition is a good plan.
 - 7. Wimms: I feel like the TTS thing is in how people outside
 - 8. Schmidt: How do we get students excited to come to Truman:
 - 9. Harrison: Is this something that will come up in the marketing
 - 10. Bates: How often does the term TTS come up in daily conversation? Is it always a negative connotation when you hear it?
 - a. A lot, and yes.
 - 11. Hogan: Something I think we could focus on are the experiences we get here; after studying abroad, I could see that the caliber of education we get here is on a significantly higher level compared to other institutions. We should highlight what you can get from your Truman education.
 - 12. Tillman: What about the crisis text line? Is that advertised anywhere?
 - a. Bates: I believe it is on the You Matter posters.
 - 13. Schmidt: I like Shania's ideas, I think those and others' thoughts are something we can bring up at the JED committee. Keep talking about this to your friends and peers, and keep this discussion moving forward.
- b. Discussion Item: JED Town Hall (Slama)
- i. Costello: Joe just wanted to get everyone's thoughts and feelings on the event.
 - ii. Discussion:
 - 1. Wissler: The presenters kept honing in on the problem of TTS and that students are the only ones truly able to change its perception. I know myself and others definitely contribute to the negativity of it, so I appreciated the reality-check.

2. Bates: I think you all have a bit of a different lens than I do, so I am just wondering what you are hearing from people.
3. Wimms: All my friends are STEM majors, so they cared a lot about the statistics, and noticed that the graphs were missing labels, which was annoying to them.
4. Holt: People I talked to didn't really like that the focus of the presentation was on students and students only being responsible for a culture change; they felt like it was administration not taking responsibility for problems.
5. Montufar: We need to be careful about making sure that the community aspect of this movement is emphasized.
6. Bates: I think part of the reason for the is that the faculty/admin initiatives may take longer. I encourage you all to look over the report and its proposals. TTS was the number one thing JED encouraged my committee to look at. Redefining TTS in a more positive light is probably going to take a while. There is an ATSU student with working on her practicum, and she is doing focus groups on what people perceive TTS to be, so look out for that, you may be able to contribute. I am excited because the group focusing on Career Anxiety has created a side room with mirrors, lint rollers, and de-stress activities for people doing interviews, etc. during Career and Grad School Week. That is a JED initiative, and we are hoping to continue it in the fall.
7. Leppanen: I find it interesting at the amount of divisiveness perceived. I do want to put it out there that the administration and faculty have done several things to aid in students overall and mental well-being (medical amnesty, among other things). They definitely are on our side.
8. Tillman: I think faculty and administration just need to be careful when they are speaking on these topics, to make sure they don't give the perception that they believe students are responsible for instituting a culture change, when that is not the case. They should emphasize that students and faculty/administration need to collaborate to solve these issues.

Announcements

1. Leppanen: We have a few more spots on the SME committee, let us know ASAP if you're interested!
2. Bates: if you're around the SUB tomorrow, try to wear purple! Tomorrow is an admitted students day (i.e. they are accepted but not committed to coming here).
 - a. Wissler: My department chair reached out us to write letters of encouragement, I don't know when to turn them in.
 - i. Hogan: I don't know about the letters; both of my departments have just asked us to come to an event for admitted students.
 - ii. Bates: I would ask your department head.

3. Harrison: This Saturday at 6:30 is the concert for Phi Mu Alpha's Jazz Fest, featuring Wycliffe Gordon! Tickets are only \$8, and look out for the posters I made!
4. Paris: I posted this in the slack a while back, the lunch for the admitted students day is tomorrow, if you still want to sign up, it closes at 7.
5. Wimms: WRC is selling tickets for the Vagina Monologues! It will be lots of fun!

Adjourned 6:09 p.m.