

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
GENERAL MEETING  
April 29, 2018  
Called to order - 5:01 p.m.**

**Preliminary Items**

- a.** Roll Call
- b.** Approval of Minutes for both meetings on 4/22
- c.** Gallery Introductions/Business
- d.** Membership Appointment/Resignation
  - i. Appointment of Katie Alexander to TEDx Ad Hoc Committee Chair
    1. Approved
  - ii. Appointment of TEDx Ad Hoc Committee Membership Slate: Kathleen Placke; Amber Colvis; Maura Shimmens; Samuel Maineri; Adesida Adrinsola (Leppanen)
    1. Approved
  - iii. Appointment of Adam Barker to Rules Revision Ad Hoc Committee Chair (Leppanen)
    1. Approved
  - iv. Appointment of Abbie White to Associate Senator (Leppanen)
    1. Approved
  - v. Appointment of Remy McClain to Senior Senator (Leppanen)
    1. Approved
  - vi. Appointment of Chester Pelsang to Senior Senator (Leppanen)
    1. Approved
  - vii. Appointment of Maura Shimmens to Secretary (Leppanen)
    1. Approved
  - viii. Appointment of Caleb DeWitt to Treasurer (Leppanen)
    1. Approved
- e.** Oath of Office
- f.** Changes to the Agenda
  - i. Treasurer's Report moved to beginning of Auxiliary Reports

**Auxiliary Reports**

- a.** Speaker of the Student Senate
  - i. I have been working on updating the ListServ
  - ii. Rules Revision - we will be looking at potential items for next semester
  - iii. Let me know if you have any questions about RR or emails, etc.
- b.** Student Representative to the Board of Governors
- c.** Faculty Advisor
- d.** Staff Advisor
  - i. There are a lot of retirements this year. There is a public list somewhere that I can share if you are interested.
  - ii. Over the summer they will start the marketing position search.
  - iii. Hr.truman.edu shows what positions are and their descriptions.
- e.** SAB Representative
- f.** FAC Representative
- g.** Legislative Director
- h.** Parking Appeals Committee Chair
  - i. Still going. The position never stops.

**Executive Reports**

- a.** Treasurer
  - i. I will be working with Laura to get some things moving and we are going to be spending money.
  - ii. Let me know if you spend money, because we have no budget and you have to motion.
- b.** Secretary

- c. President/Vice President of the Student Association
  - i. We went to the first faculty senate since we have been appointed - they talked about many things. COMM 170 is looking for department feedback. A few of the LSP committees also presented, lots of exciting stuff. The symposium will have a pilot this fall in Dobson. Health Wellness and Safety will be discussed later. PHRE and Math had their 5-year review this year. They both embodied their disciplines. They officially deactivated the Russian major, but it will be incorporated into future language majors.
  - ii. Housekeeping: Committee chair applications are up, send those in, many will probably be appointed next week. Which we appoint now and which we appoint later will depend on the applications we get and who needs to be working this summer.
  - iii. We are having a meeting next Sunday, 5 p.m.
  - iv. Questions: Would committees be formed over the summer? A: No, not until retreat in the fall.
  - v. We are pushing forward a resolution about Truman Days (freshmen week). We play a large role, fund some events, and try to get members there so that we can get face-time with the new students. We need members to come back early for this. We pay for your room and board during this time. Email Deanna and I if you are interested. Please include where you are living, building and room number.
  - vi. Straw poll for who wants to help and who lives on campus.
  - vii. We need some help over the summer, Remy and Jared can tag-team while they are here.
  - viii. I created the new Slack. Just a friendly reminder to turn your notifications on!
  - ix. I will be making a directory in the next few days so we can all contact each other. There will also be a place to put whether or not you need a name tag.

## **Old Business**

### **New Business**

- a. First Read: A Resolution Allocating the Budget for Truman Days (Leppanen)
  - i. This goes into more detail about what we are buying for Truman Days.
  - ii. All future resolutions will be with semicolons.
  - iii. First Read.
- b. Money Motion: Recognition Gavel for Kyra Cooper (Leppanen)
- c. Discussion Item: Changes to the Wellness Requirement (Slama)
  - i. This is fun. So the faculty recently voted to change the LSP program to the new model, with a lot of work and options. The proposal is to change the wellness requirement from a class and lab to something where you self log exercise every week, about an hour, and this would be every semester of your time here. We are officially opposed to this as a body. A lot of people are concerned for a lot of different reasons. I want to gather people's thoughts on this.
  - ii. Wissler: This is not for credit. Does this mean that there is no additional fee? A: Fining people who don't complete this has been talked about. We are meeting this Thursday. Professors must log what they do every week for their insurance, or their premiums go up. At the moment this is all based on the honor system. They want to promote this culture.
  - iii. Laura: there is no exercise requirement that I know of, but there are many screenings.
  - iv. Leppanen: I have major reservations. I wouldn't graduate if I were required to do this. I am very concerned about how this would affect admissions and this is a very important point surrounding our image as a school. This is a big talking point that would be a huge turnoff. It upsets me that it is a graduation requirement. At what level does this affect my ability to get my diploma? Honor system is no system. On top of that, the main point is that (we have already established an opinion as a body) the faculty have made it seem like students are definitely on board with this, that this made our objections all better, and I do not see it that way. This is a penalty system for students and an incentive for faculty, which is not fair. It should be the same for both.

- v. Holt: We have to consider people who do it for fun, and how it may become a chore for them in the future. It becomes a competition for the typical Truman student. This is a talking point, and not one that promotes wellness. On a smaller note, people who suffer from eating disorders should NOT be able to do this. What if they are crippled, as well?
  - vi. Kolok: What is the game plan going forward? What can we do about this? Is the ball in our court? A: The ball is in the court of the committee. I can be a loud voice. The committee will draft a policy and bring it forth in December. Our resolution supported that our data did not support this and we do not like it. A future resolution could come forth once the committee has come forth with a policy.
  - vii. Schmidt: Have other universities done this? A: Not sure. Schmidt: This has been extremely helpful in COMM 170. I liked Rachel's point. They want this to help students become healthier, but I don't see this accomplishing that goal. A compromise would maybe be for the first two semesters. Slama: Two scenarios that are ok: two semester requirement, or if all the faculty are required (not really ok with this, but not an official stance of the body, just an opinion) I like the two semester, I think it would better foster and appreciation for exercise. We could start with that and see where it goes, but it wouldn't be a bad idea to go one step at a time with this, like the symposium. This way Student Government stays involved at all steps of the way. Schmidt: Is there a timeline? It may be a good idea to send out a new survey to the student body; we only had 40-50 students come to the forums last fall. We need to have a lot of opinion from the student body.
  - viii. McClain: Has it been decided whether or not this will be discussed over the summer? They have not decided yet.
  - ix. Discussion extended to exhaust the speaker's list.
  - x. Tillman: How do we communicate that while exercise is important, it is not a solution to require it? Wissler: this was addressed in our resolution.
  - xi. Alexander: Exercise is one part of a lot of things that make a person healthy. There are so many components and it seems crazy to monitor grown adults on this. It is important to foster a culture that exercise is wanted and encouraged, but it should be a way to introduce students to new forms of exercise and providing different options of enjoying this lifestyle. It may help if there were an incentive in the first two semesters to help students learn new things. Slama: Early registration is an incentive...but still a penalty. An incentive should not negatively affect other people.
  - xii. Paris: On what basis do they have to tell us to do anything?
  - xiii. Leppanen: I have been assuming that this would only affect incoming students on the new catalog, would that be correct? A: Yes. L: We originally assumed it would be replacing the health requirement in the curriculum so that athletes wouldn't have to take the course, is that correct? I am supportive of that for the athletes and students who log that they run every day... that this could replace the course requirement for them. Please do not storm the committee. If you want to attend, talk to Joe.
- d. Discussion Item: Course Repeat Policy (Schmidt)
- i. Academic Affairs has been very involved with a change in the course repeat policy: currently, the second time you take a class your two grades will be averaged and factored into your gpa. Dr. Quinn proposed that the higher of the two will be factored into the gpa and the second will appear on your transcript, but will not be in the gpa. It passed UGC and in Faculty Senate they want caps on how many times you can take the course again. They worry that students will stop trying halfway through knowing that they will just retake the course later. The proposed cap has been 12 credits.
  - ii. Slama: the credit cap seems reasonable. The first semester can be very rough.
  - iii. Wissler: I don't like the cap, but because it goes by hours instead of classes. Science and English majors would only be able to do three, Justice Systems would be more. I would propose that 4 classes can be retaken. I think it should be similar to the credit/no-credit class cap. A 4 credit hour class weighs more in the gpa calculation than a 3 credit. 5 credits per semester can be taken credit/no-credit with a cap of 10 total.

- iv. Kolok: If you want to retake genetics, for example, you have to find time to do so.
- v. Schmidt: I am curious, UGC passed after the credit cap idea was brought up. It happened again at faculty senate - are you in favor of the credit cap?
- vi. Tillman: I am not sure that a credit cap is the best thing.
- vii. Wissler: I like the cap because it instills responsibility in students so that you cannot willy-nilly give up classes. There are also 12 credits for credit/no-credit; there are many opportunities to help students. I don't think it would negatively affect students; it underestimates the options we already have.
- viii. Holt: Cap is good for responsibility, but the students are still paying tuition. That makes the school money. Money-wise it would still teach that because they are still paying for the extra credits taken.
- ix. Alexander: The F will still be on your transcript and the financial burden is real - there are still a lot of consequences involved. No cap would allow people to have more choice.
- x. Is there a cap on how many times a student can take one particular class? A: I believe it depends on the course.
- xi. Tillman: I am wondering - do we have any statistics on how often people repeat courses now? What is the credit average? Could that help decide what the cap would be? Schmidt: I don't think that this has been investigated. Dr. Quinn is coming at this from the perspective of advising minority students - international, etc.
- xii. Leppanen: Straw Poll - in favor of a cap yes/no?
- xiii. Paris: I don't like the cap because I do not think it is high enough.
- xiv. Tillman: Yes, 15 may be closer to the average credits per semester.
- xv. Pelsang: It would be a deal breaker if it would remain at 12? (to Paris) A: Not necessarily.
- xvi. Wissler: Straw Poll - Would you vote to pass it in its current form with 12 credit hours?
- xvii. Leppanen: Straw Poll - Assuming the policy passes - Are you in support of or against a cap?

#### **Announcements**

1. Wissler - We gave out our Purple Friday prize this week. We are tabling on Friday for snow cones. Please sign up, the doc will be coming out soon!
2. Holt - Almost hit \$1,000 for the event!

**Adjourned - 6:57 p.m.**

#### **Links:**

[Truman Days Resolution](#)