

**TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT GOVERNMENT
TWENTIETH SESSION OF THE 2020-2021 GENERAL BODY
January 31, 2021**

Called to Order: 5:00 p.m.

1) Preliminary Items

- a) Roll Call
- b) Approval of Minutes
 - i) Approved
- c) Gallery Introductions/Business
 - i) Tessa Sottile, SAB treasurer; Anakin Bush, Index
- d) Membership Appointment/Resignation
- e) Oath of office
- f) Changes to the Agenda

2) Auxiliary Reports

- a) Speaker of the Student Senate
 - i) E. Smith:
 - (1) Next meeting will be 4:00 p.m. in-person/hybrid, due to Super Bowl
 - (2) [Rules Revision application](#)
 - (a) Fill this out if you are interested, even if you previously expressed interest
- b) Faculty Advisor
 - i) N/A
- c) Staff Advisor
 - i) Bates:
 - (1) You should see candidates for Rec Center director in the coming weeks
 - (2) If you know people who are supposed to be quarantining/isolating, please make sure they are following these guidelines
- d) Student Representative to the Board of Governors
 - i) Smeltzer:
 - (1) BOG has February meeting on Saturday; meet and greet 10:00 a.m., committee meetings start at 11:00, actual meeting at 1:00
 - (a) Not too many action items, mostly reports
 - (b) Action item to certify Randolph Apartments plans
- e) Athletic Fee Accountability Committee Chair
 - i) Connolly:
 - (1) Google forms for project proposals available; working on getting posters, spending less than \$100
 - (2) Bates: Since there are several classes that are virtual, what are you doing for non-print material?
 - (a) Connolly: Truman Today will have information
- f) Environmental Fee Accountability Committee Chair
 - i) N/A
- g) Student Representative to SAB
 - i) Cochran:
 - (1) Five events coming up including paint by numbers, stuff-a-plush, The Hate You Give
 - (2) Exec elections last week
- h) Student Representative to ResLife
 - i) N/A
- i) Organizational Representatives
 - i) Student Climate Union:
 - (1) Johnson:

- (a) Last week discussed potential ECO collaboration projects
- (b) Will be having a meeting soon discussing the intersections between sustainability and disability
- j) Black Student Representative**
 - i) Eagal:**
 - (1) Working with Kennedy for Black History Month programming
 - (2) Finalized semester plans with Bertha and Katie
 - (3) Made a Google folder with documents
- k) Academic Affairs Committee**
 - i) Purinton:**
 - (1) Academic Accolades forms are out, also making posters
 - (2) Meeting with Jonathan Vieker for undecided student project went well ; will be working with him and Dr. Glieson to help advise undecided students
- l) Diversity Committee**
 - i) Cooper:**
 - (1) Working on putting together programming for Black History Month; discussion about Black feminism, short documentary, collaborating with music and art departments
 - (2) Looking at collaborating with HWS, perhaps series of Instagram posts
- m) Environmental Affairs Committee**
 - i) Kershaw:**
 - (1) Created PR post about recycling rules in Kirksville for off-campus students
 - (2) Still working on divestment with Bulldog Investment student group
- n) External Affairs Committee**
 - i) MacLeod:**
 - (1) Bringing forward resolution today
 - (2) JoEllen Engelbart resolution is going well, also looking into reaching out to some other people for resources supporting the family
 - (3) NEMO Covid Stops With Us interested in attending one of our meetings
- o) Student Affairs Committee**
 - i) Barge:**
 - (1) Focus on resolutions and outreach to different clubs and organizations
 - (2) Potential resolutions include either raising student wages or reducing scholarship hours, and increasing bathroom access in the dorms
 - (3) If other committees would like any funding support, let Warren know
 - ii) Barker: What is the problem with bathroom access?**
 - (1) Barge: For a lot of the dorms, there is not easy access if you are not actually a member of the dorm
- p) Health, Wellness, and Safety Co-Committee**
 - i) Barker:**
 - (1) Got in touch with Kennedy about an event for Black History Month
 - (2) Looking into peer counseling app
- q) Purple Friday Committee**
 - i) N/A**
- r) Parking Appeals Committee**
 - i) Paris:**
 - (1) Parking tickets are mounting
 - (2) Looking to design posters, so let Adam know if you have any design suggestions
- s) IT Director**
 - i) N/A**
- t) PR Director**

- i) Knight:
 - (1) Got alumni mailing list from the Office of Advancement, will get posts started up soon
 - (2) Got post up about IT Director
 - (3) Will post about academic accolades

3) Executive Reports

a) Treasurer

- i) Wren:
 - (1) Bringing resolution for labyrinth funding

b) Secretary

- i) Lesch:
 - (1) No report

c) The President and Vice President of the Student Association

- i) German:
 - (1) Dodgeball Tuesday at 8:20
 - (2) StuGov dinner Monday at 5:00
 - (3) Composite is underway, will spend no more than \$99 to print and frame

ii) Katie:

- (1) Meeting with Dr. Thomas:
 - (a) Students are low on priority list for vaccine, but if you have an underlying health risk or work with patients, you might be able to apply
 - (b) University waiting for now to distribute CARES act money, because currently only Pell recipients are eligible; working to expand access
 - (c) Faculty senate:
 - (i) Capital improvement is renovation of Pershing building -- modernizing rooms/bathrooms/H-VAC
 - (ii) Governor also recommended flat core funding
 - (iii) Reports from new director of admission show decrease in first-year retention, but still higher than 2019
 - 1. Applications are up 3%, but housing applications are down 24% -- might not be as accurate of a metric as other years because of the pandemic
 - (iv) Civics exam data suggests students are taking longer to take the exam, but are still not all getting 100% (no increases in cheating); looking into the future of the civics exam
- (2) Annual report to BOG is on Saturday; will use ExComm information regarding main projects for the semester

4) Old Business

5) New Business

a) [An Executive Order Establishing the Governing Documents Review Board Ad Hoc Committee for the Spring 2021 Semester](#) (Alexander)

- i) Alexander: Concrete lists for committee discussion, Emily will be taking applications soon
- ii) Questions:
 - (1) Holt: Jared Kolock says it is not an Ad Hoc Committee, but just a review board
 - (2) E. Smith: It was listed as Ad Hoc last time I looked at the documents

iii) Approved

b) [Labyrinth Resolution](#) (Wren)

- i) Wren: \$4,350; have included project proposal in the footnotes

- ii) Questions:
 - (1) Bono: Are there any sketches available?
 - (a) Bates: There was a layout two years ago; there is a direct pattern, I think in the shape of an octagon
- iii) Discussion:
 - (1) Holt: I'm super excited to see this project finally happening
 - (2) Bates: This total does not include a plaque, so you might think about this moving forward
- iv) Wren: Motion to second read and pass -- construction supposed to start in early February, so want to get this moving
 - (1) Approved 9-1-0
- v) Adopted by unanimous consent
- c) [A Resolution Calling on the State Government to Categorize Professors as Critical Infrastructure Workers for Vaccine Distribution Purposes](#) (MacLeod)
 - i) MacLeod: State government initially classified higher education instructors as critical infrastructure workers, but have changed this; professors are no longer next in line for vaccine access; I can include staff in the resolution as well
 - ii) Questions:
 - (1) Holt: What was the reason for cutting them out?
 - (a) MacLeod: None stated
 - iii) Discussion:
 - (1) Alexander: You mention this goes against CDC guidelines -- you might cite this; have you looked into how educators receive the vaccine in other states?
 - (a) MacLeod: I hadn't included anything specifically about that, but I will look into this
 - (b) Alexander: "It is essential that these individuals be vaccinated as soon as possible" -- could you discuss the consequences of having outbreaks among faculty and staff?
 - (i) MacLeod: I can be more explicit here
 - (c) Alexander: I think it is interesting how the administration flipped and did not give a reason -- you might consider including some of this; "education of youth," might use "young adults/adults" instead; in the "Directs" you'll want to include other universities/state government/media outlets
 - (2) Barker: Beefing it up a little bit might be good; I would add data about outbreaks in other universities, which personnel in k-12 do get to receive the vaccine, trying to anticipate rejections
 - (3) Bates: If you are going to pivot to not just faculty, you might want to use more neutral terms that include faculty and staff; I would contact Brenda Higgins to get actual stats on case rates from last semester
 - (4) O. Smith: I would definitely clarify what happens as a result of unvaccinated faculty/staff -- I think they made the distinction because of the interactions between children and the workforce
 - iv) First Read
- d) [A Resolution Requesting The Student Activities Board To Publicly Release Their Budget](#) (Owsley)
 - i) Owsley: To address past student concerns about SAB's previous spending and somewhat of a lack of transparency; I know we are already working with SAB, so this is all preliminary; calls on SAB to release budget every year; also includes request to itemize that which can be itemized
 - ii) Questions:
 - (1) Alexander: Can you tell us about your discussions with SAB?

- (a) Owsley: Talked with Gracie and started drafting this resolution; started talking with Tessa and communicated on Friday; keeping communication open
- (b) Barge: Before you said that the treasurer is already trying to update their budget?
 - (i) Owsley: It was the primary reason for calling the resolution to begin with, but I think it is a good idea to remind them as an organization

iii) Discussion:

- (1) Holt: I think this is a really important resolution; we are asking for a better description of what they can tell us; our budget is very specific, and I would like to see more transparency on the things they can tell us and resources to access the other documents
- (2) O. Smith: It seems that this is what OAF does; OAF is consistent in asking SAB for more transparency; I think they could be more transparent, but I think this resolution is not really for us to be dealing with
- (3) Sottile: Made a lot of comments; we make a spreadsheet every year, reference what FRFs and contracts come through, audit through the U&I ledger to verify what we have actually spent; the reason we don't put that spreadsheet directly on the website is because so much of that budget needs to be kept confidential
- (4) Barge: If the problem is that SAB is not being transparent, we could go to an SAB meeting to discuss these issues with them; we also do not have an updated website, which means that students cannot reach out to our new members -- it is easier for students to contact members of SAB than it is to contact Student Government meetings; Tessa is already trying to update the budget, so I think they are trying to be transparent; Fall and Spring budgets are not posted on our website right now; our relationship with SAB is not good right now, and I don't see how this will be helping us
 - (a) E. Smith: I was in discussion with all the sponsors of this resolution and encouraged Mike to put this forward today so that it can encourage more productive conversations going forward; also suggested that we can hold off on further discussion, but wanted to bring it forward so we establish these concerns
- (5) Sprehe: OAF is not the student body as a whole; there have been concerns from the student body about this, so it is our job as representatives to ask SAB in a productive manner to release their budget; OAF brings forward their findings, but it does not match all of the concerns brought forward by the student body
- (6) Holt: This is not a personal attack on Tessa or SAB; the reason we as a Student Government need to hold these organizations to a higher standard is because we have approved their funding, so it is also our role to document the discontent student have; we understand that there are some things that are contract protected that we cannot know, but I am sure there are other expenses that can be described more in detail; we are representing students, I have heard concerns from students all four years I have been here; what has been cut from the resolution has been cut for a reason -- Mike has taken in lots of advice and perspectives
- (7) Alexander: I think the questions this resolution asks are fair; I am frustrated by the resolution itself, and the fact that this was not a conversation first; I think there should have been a longer conversation before we brought forward a public resolution about this, and I worry

this is unprofessional and damaging to our relationship with SAB; on a personal level, I think we should be giving the leaders of SAB more chances to communicate (the pandemic creates unique challenges, and being a student administrator is difficult); I feel we should have had a conversation first and then later made a resolution if there did not seem to be a solution

- (8) Bates: I agree with the intent of the resolution, but I think the impact of your writing is not going to meet your intentions; I struggle with the fact that we are asking of another organization things that we ourselves do not do; OAF has suggested there be a consistent budget template that all three fee-based org's adopt; I would hope we can move to focusing on how we can help students rather than singling one out; we have to be willing to reflect about ourselves before putting something like this out; all of you serve a common purpose to serve the students, and I encourage you to focus on these commonalities
- (9) Barker: I agree with what both Laura and Katie have said; I was a representative to OAF last year, and this issue came up; the budget is also a very complex process, and they are not able to turn that over to everybody because of confidentiality; I think there are ways it can be more transparent, and there are legitimate conversations to happen; SAB did give the most detailed budget to OAF for the auditing process; what I am seeing in the "Therefore be it resolved" is not in line with what I think would be useful; I think this can be an ongoing conversation, and I don't think a resolution is a bad idea after we have had some more conversations and explored some of the complex issues
- (a) Bates: Contractually, when we bring a comedian or the like, there is an agreement that we cannot publicly display the fees
- (10) MacLeod: I do think a lot of the arguments are valid, and I think we should include the fact that we ourselves have not been the best about our budget; I'm sure SAB has valid reasons for the lack of information, but students still deserve transparency; I think this resolution should discuss fee-based organizations more in general; this in general deserves to be brought up in resolution form; I understand that a lot of SAB funds are confidential, but I think there should be a way to communicate with students that some of their money has been spent on things that must remain confidential
- (11) Owsley: I agree with a lot of what Kiren said, and I also want to hold everyone accountable for how they spend money; Adam Barker brought up the fact that this shouldn't have come up in three days, and I agree; once this resolution is shown in any way, it becomes a line of communication; I look forward to continuing to work with Tessa
- (12) Bono: This is just a request, we are not trying to put down SAB; I do wish we would have had more time to discuss
- (13) Barge: The resolution that Kiren is advocating for is not the resolution that is here today; we should not be first reading a resolution that directly points out one organization when we are doing some of the same things; we did not have a bad conversation with SAB because of this resolution, but because of how we acted
- (14) Sottile: Tonight was the first time that I have seen this resolution; I also thought this would be a more long-term project; I feel inspired by this conversation, but I do wish that this came as a conversation first rather than through the connected walls between our offices; I personally have no issue with Student Government, but this has created some tension; I have been treasurer for two years, so I feel responsible for this two year

gap; for 2018-2019, we were working on our OAF auditing/budget -- I thought our website had been updated; with 2019-2020 budget, I reached out to our advisor about what numbers to put on the website, so this is happening; I do want to fix this, and I have a lot of ideas on how to improve transparency after talking with Mike; I love the intent of this resolution, but I wish the people it was intended for had more say on what was going to happen

(15) Cooper: Hearing some of the arguments that were brought up about how our own organization has some similar issues; I would like to no longer sponsor this resolution unless we change the resolution to include our own organization

iv) Resolution tabled

e) [Women's Leadership Conference Mural Expenditure](#) (Sprehe)

i) Sprehe: Met with four artists that will be working on this mural; had all four artists make individual sketches, and they have decided they want to combine these two ideas -- will get back Tuesday with the final plan; need to get decorations prepared as soon as possible

ii) Questions:

(1) Wuennenberg: Do you have any idea what the quote will be?

(a) Sprehe: Our committee will unanimously agree on the quote before the final decision is made

iii) Adopted by unanimous consent, with one abstention

6) Announcements

a) **E. Smith: If you want to be on rules revision in some capacity, please fill out the form**

b) **General Body is at 4:00 next weekend**

Adjourned: 6:30 p.m.