

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
February 18, 2021**

Called to order: 8:04 p.m.

1) Preliminary Items

a) Roll Call

2) Auxiliary Reports

a) Speaker of the Student Senate

i) E. Smith:

- (1) Rules Revision met for the first time on Saturday and began laying the groundwork.
- (2) The next meeting will be covering changes to the Environmental Affairs and Diversity Committees.
- (3) The committee would like Katie to come in the future for OAF suggestions and Jesse for Appropriations.

b) Academic Affairs Committee Chair

i) Purinton:

- (1) A McNair scholar will be participating in the interview process for awards.
- (2) I will be sending out prompts to nominated professors tomorrow morning.
- (3) German: How many nominations were submitted?
(a) Purinton: 53

c) Diversity Committee Chair

i) Cooper:

- (1) I met with the University of Vermont on Tuesday for resources and suggestions for the Interfaith Center.
- (2) We are hosting a coffee hour and the *Land of Opportunity* showing next week. Please attend and share these events.

d) Environmental Affairs Committee Chair

i) Kershaw:

- (1) I am currently waiting to hear back from the university on my divestment research. A resolution is coming to back up this research
- (2) I am pursuing a movie and discussion collaboration event with the Center for International Students in the near future.

e) External Affairs Committee Chair

i) MacLeod:

- (1) Final revisions are being made to the resolution.
- (2) Alexander: Do you feel confident about the resolution coming on Sunday?
(a) MacLeod: Very.

f) Health, Wellness, and Safety Co-Chairs

i) Barker:

- (1) Members of the committee are meeting with members of the "Unmasked" app next week.

ii) Woods:

- (1) I am meeting with Janes Dreamweaver about the brochure tomorrow.
- (2) I am working on organizing some programming for spring break safety and guidelines.
- (3) I am researching the new variances of COVID-19 and CDC policies.
- (4) Alexander: Can you elaborate on this app?
 - (a) Barker: A pretty successful virtual peer counseling app that other universities use.
- (5) Alexander: Dr. Thomas suggested reaching out to the new university counsel for the app.
 - (a) Barker: We will reach out but we are certain that it is cleared and good.

g) Purple Friday Committee Chair

i) Myers:

- (1) Sign up for tabling tomorrow!
- (2) I am going to try and schedule the rest of the semester and reach out to the Student Union with all dates.
- (3) German: Kennedy hung up 75 posters.

h) Student Affairs Committee Chair

i) Barge:

- (1) Students are complaining about the dress code at the recreation center. There is a current petition with over 500 signatures. We don't know how many are just Truman students but it is still a concern. Our committee will be opening up a conversation with the recreation center over the guidelines and policies.
- (2) We are collaborating with the Diversity Community and the Center for International Students for a few events in the future.
- (3) We are starting a new project for the admissions office.
- (4) Alexander: The recreation center and Janna responded to the student fairly quickly. We could look into other universities for standard policies.

i) Women's Leadership Committee Chair

i) Sprehe:

- (1) Money motions will be coming before spring break.
- (2) The artists have started the backdrop.
- (3) Zoom meeting with Bertha Thomas tomorrow about potential panelists.
- (4) We have secured Auditor Nicole Galloway as the keynote speaker for the conference.
- (5) Alexander: Notify the PR office and alert them that we are bringing Auditor Galloway to campus.

j) PR Director

i) Knight:

- (1) Weekly giveaway and alumni post are happening tomorrow
- (2) Please follow the Instagram account.

k) Legislative Director

i) King:

- (1) The bill tracker is in the shared Google Drive.
- (2) HB 681 - calls for universities to not charge students for health care if they have insurance - is not looking good.
 - (a) Alexander: What is your opinion?

- (i) King: As a college student, I do think that we need to have this. Why do students and insurance need to pay the university?
- (ii) Alexander: You are welcome to bring this discussion to the body and other topics that you are really passionate about.

3) Executive Reports

a) Treasurer

- i) No report.

b) Secretary

- i) No report.

c) The President and Vice President of the Student Association

- i) Alexander:

(1) Discussed inclement weather with Dr. Thomas and Janna; staff classified as essential are required to be here no matter what (Sodexo, DPS, and Physical Plant) and get time and a half when the university cancels; the inclement weather policy will be updated to include information on the safety of student workers when classes are cancelled.

(2) Discussed alternative course assignment day and the policy. Faculty should have a plan and structure of how their classes will operate in the event of an inclement weather day. This policy ensures that each class has the required amount of seat time. When classes are missed, we have to seek accommodations. This policy makes it easier on the administration to ensure that we do not need to seek accommodations. Cancellations also stress students and faculty out. Having other options now will make it easier for the students and faculty to stay on task throughout the semester. Josh and I have decided to drop the pursuit of inclement weather policy.

(a) Barker: Are they planning on using this policy?

- (i) Alexander: They implemented the policy on Friday and Monday.

(b) Barker: A lot of students are upset and we should not drop our pursuit. We need clarification on this policy.

- (i) Alexander: We will ask about the snow threshold next week and clarify what happens when Kirksville announces a snow emergency.

(c) Barker: HWS reached out to Director Siefert about the snow emergency this past week and she suggested that Student Government look into this.

(d) E. Smith: The sidewalks are very dangerous for students even when the roads are fine. It takes a lot more time to get class and it is miserable for students.

(e) Barker: In the past, the university has cancelled morning classes or activities. That would be more beneficial and would allow crews to clean up streets and sidewalks.

(3) The university spends \$1,000 per day on salt.

- (4) The Randolph Apartments are being demolished next year. The plan is to turn the space into additional green parking space or a sand volleyball course.
- (a) Kershaw: What about a second labyrinth?
 - (b) Myers: Can we still access single apartments on campus?
 - (i) Alexander: You can buy out a single apartment.
 - (c) E. Smith: Students are suggesting a dog park since Dobson is the pet friendly housing unit.
- (5) How are we feeling about the racial issues discussion coming on Sunday? Each chair will share what their committees are doing and ways to pay special attention to elections.
- (a) Sprehe: What if talk about other relevant issues outside of Truman?
 - (i) German: Like what?
 - (ii) Sprehe: Minority communities are disadvantaged in Texas.
 - (iii) German: How does this relate to our discussion?
 - (iv) King: There is a senate bill that prohibits belief-based student organizations in higher learning.
 - 1. Cooper: How do they define belief-based organizations? Political or religious?
 - 2. King: Both.
- (6) Janna asked us to have a sand volleyball court built next to the labyrinth.
- (a) Barker: A resounding no.
 - (b) Sprehe: No.
 - (c) E. Smith: No.
 - (d) MacLeod: No.
 - (e) Meyers: I like the idea.
 - (f) German: They are looking at multiple locations for one sand volleyball court.
 - (g) Cooper: Can we construct a new basketball court?
 - (i) Alexander: I believe they are building another. I will check on this.
 - (h) Alexander: Ethan was captain of our basketball team at Smithville High School.
- (7) I met with Jessica Rood, the President of Student Activities Board, regarding our organizational relations and how we can become more interconnected. The goal is to revamp the role of the SAB representative on our body. A second idea is having the representative to be a floating ex-officio committee member of different committees as they plan and execute events and legislation. A final idea includes the representative giving a more thorough explanation and report of the operation of SAB each year. We will be having general discussion and perhaps a resolution developing a new vision for this position. The next administration will need to take a more active role in this collaboration with SAB.
- (a) E. Smith: They need to be involved in our programming and policy decisions. The collaboration could help improve our events. A joint relationship is important.

- (b) Meyers: I want to know their processes better.
- (8) We suggest having HWS connect with DPS regarding the new RAVE safety app so that we can do promotion and programming for students. Also, HWS should clarify confidentiality on the new health services with counseling and health combined.
- (9) We are doing a mid-semester refresher and training for committee chairs.
 - (a) German: Tracking committee progress is simple. We encourage chairs to have a document or excel sheet to keep track of who is working on what projects and the status of those projects. This allows you to see tangible progress of your committee and individual members.
 - (b) German: Start thinking about end-of-year reports. Begin brainstorming progress, ideas, and suggestions for future chairs.
 - (c) German: Delegation is very important in order to offload large amounts of work. Your committee members want to be involved and a part of student government. Each committee member should have tasks and goals. Reach out to each of your committee members personally and build relationships.
 - (d) Wren: Start planning now if you are expecting to spend money this semester. Do not make contracts on the behalf of the student government. Please allow ample time for fund request forms to be processed by Laura and the Business Office. Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.
 - (e) E. Smith: The main thing to remember about working with the U&I is that every employee is just a student. Things can get misplaced. Make sure that you email union@truman.edu for room and technology requests. All forms for the U&I are located online and easy to access.
 - (f) Alexander: We only have six or seven weeks until the end of the year and it will fly by. Committee work needs to be close to finalized by the end of March as elections are the main priority in April. Chairs should sit down with their committees and set their final priorities. I suggest setting dates and deadlines.
 - (g) Alexander: The standard format for an end-of-year report includes a section on the status and notes of completed and in-progress projects, a section on resolutions with an explanation of their purpose, a section for future ideas and suggestions for the future chair, and a final section on general advice for the future chair.

Adjourned: 9:10 p.m.