

**TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
TENTH SESSION OF THE 2020-2021 GENERAL BODY  
October 4, 2020**

**Called to order: 5:00 p.m.**

**1) Preliminary Items**

- a) Roll Call**
- b) Approval of Minutes**
  - i) Holt:** Include Katie's abstention in regards to the Purple/Rainbow Friday resolution
  - ii) Approved**
- c) Gallery Introductions/Business**
  - i) Eli Avery; College Republicans; Louisa Lopez**
- d) Membership Appointment/Resignation**
  - i) Major appointment of Warren Barge as Chair of the Student Affairs Committee**  
(1) Approved
  - ii) Appointment of Sam Myers to Chair of the Purple Friday Committee**  
(1) Approved
  - iii) Appointment of Louisa Lopez as an Associate Senator on the Purple Friday Committee**  
(1) Approved
  - iv) Appointment of Maddie Meyer, Mike Owsley, and Morgan Sprehe as Senators to the Appropriations Committee**  
(1) Approved
  - v) Appointment of Kennedy Cooper as the Student Government Representative to the Food Pantry Planning Committee**  
(1) Approved
  - vi) Appointment of Rachel Holt and Sam Myers as Student Government Representatives to the Residence Hall Association**  
(1) Approved
  - vii) Appointment of Emily Anderson as an Associate Senator to the Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee**  
(1) Approved
  - viii) Appointment of John Marx as a Senator to the Academic Affairs Committee**  
(1) Approved
- e) Oath of Office**
- f) Changes to the Agenda**

**2) Auxiliary Reports**

- a) Speaker of the Student Senate**
  - i) No report**
- b) Faculty Advisor**
  - i) N/A**
- c) Staff Advisor**
  - i) Health screenings for faculty and staff cancelled due to covid concerns**
  - ii) Free covid testing October 12th -- requires registration, so please do so if you are interested**
  - iii) Free drive-thrus flu shots October 14th**
  - iv) Laura will be reaching out to some chairs to discuss plans, budgets, etc.**
- d) Student Representative to the Board of Governors**
  - i) N/A**
- e) Athletic Fee Accountability Committee**
  - i) N/A**
- f) Student Representative to SAB**

- i) Cochran:**
  - (1) Air Plants Tuesday October 6th on the quad
  - (2) Rainbow Friday t-shirt making October 7th on the quad
  - (3) Oktoberfest this Friday on the quad
- g) Academic Affairs Committee**
  - i) Purinton:**
    - (1) Met with Dr. Gooch in regards to civics exam
    - (2) Met with Jonathan Vieker; he is impressed with increase in retention and is looking into what resulted in that increase
    - (3) Tomorrow, all December grads will be receiving an email about applying to be commencement speakers
  - ii) Bates:**
    - (1) Looking into other kinds of advising happening on campus (beyond academic)
- h) Diversity Committee**
  - i) Montúfar:**
    - (1) Moonlight went well last Friday!
      - (a) Considering climate justice movie showing with Ethan
    - (2) Moving forward with commissioning artist for land agreement
    - (3) Talking with Janna about GNH this week
- i) Environmental Affairs Committee**
  - i) Kershaw:**
    - (1) New compostable boxes in some dining halls
      - (a) Meeting about how these will be collected
    - (2) Sustainability Week is this week!
- j) External Affairs Committee**
  - i) MacLeod:**
    - (1) Met with Adair County Clerk about changing precinct lines for off-campus students
      - (a) This can't happen before this election, but she is interested in implementing it in the future
    - (2) Tabling with Sigmas went well
      - (a) Will continue this Monday and Tuesday
    - (3) Met with Adair County Health Board to discuss mask mandate
      - (a) Discussed idea of targeted mask mandate, such as restaurant staff
      - (b) Working to schedule meeting in terms of targeted mask mandate
    - (4) Met with Chamber of Commerce on Friday
  - ii) O. Smith:** Some people in SAB office said they would like to help with tabling. Would it be possible to get a whiteboard to advertise absentee ballot sign up?
- k) Student Affairs Committee**
  - i) Barge:**
    - (1) Student Appreciation Week is major focus right now
      - (a) Trying to align Student Activities Week with Tru100 activities
      - (b) Perhaps using Baldwin Auditorium for some kind of musical event
      - (c) Thinking about working with SAB to buy a t-shirt cannon
    - (2) Figuring out Student Appreciation Week budget
    - (3) Trying to work with other organizations to ensure equity/inclusion
- D) Health, Wellness, and Safety Co-Committee**
  - i) Barker:**
    - (1) Faculty Wellness Spotlight is on instagram, and will be in Truman Today next week
    - (2) Coordinating with Dr. Dixon for wellness events

- (3) Talking with UCS about how UCS can work towards identity issues
    - ii) Woods:**
      - (1) Met with Chamber of Commerce
        - (a) Will work towards encouraging social distancing and mask requirements in Kirksville businesses
      - (2) Working with Mr. Dreamweaver to create handbook outlining eight dimensions of wellness
        - (a) Every freshman would receive this during Truman Week
        - (b) Resources for accessing health resources on campus
        - (c) Will also find more information for this through focus class with Dr. Dixon (What are current freshmen looking for in terms of wellness?)
  - m) Purple Friday Committee:**
    - i) Myers:**
      - (1) First committee meeting this week
      - (2) Discussed Rainbow Friday
      - (3) Will send out sign-ups for tabling for Rainbow Friday
      - (4) Discussed special events once a month
      - (5) Discussed tabling issues for winter (cannot table inside this year)
  - n) Parking Appeals Committee**
    - i) Paris:**
      - (1) Lots of parking tickets, talking with DPS about why tickets occur in these specific areas
      - (2) Also talked with DPS about folks receiving tickets when they have a parking pass on it
  - o) IT Director**
    - i) Sheto:**
      - (1) Talked with It department
      - (2) Would like everyone's suggestions as to what should be included in the website -- DM Hana with suggestions
      - (3) Including covid information on the Student Government website
  - p) PR Director**
    - i) Excited for faculty wellness spotlight**
    - ii) Released graphic relating to NEMO fairgrounds covid testing, National Coming Out Day events**
    - iii) Planning on releasing graphics relating to racial justice conversations and commencement**
    - iv) Contact Alec with any requests for PR!**
- 3) Executive Reports**
- a) Treasurer**
    - i) Officially have an appropriations committee!**
      - (1) Will start receiving applications (hopefully)
    - ii) Reaching out to chairs**
  - b) Secretary**
    - i) Thanks everyone for doing office hours!**
    - ii) If you miss your regular office hour, please complete it at a different time**
  - c) The President and Vice President of the Student Association**
    - i) Alexander:**
      - (1) Meeting with Chamber of Commerce
        - (a) Will reach out to local businesses and let them know what kinds of health expectations Truman students have
        - (b) Local businesses will receive poster if they match Truman safe standards
          - (i) Will also send list of safe businesses to student body

- (2) Also got good advice in terms of advertising special positions -- applications getting off the ground
- (3) Meeting with Dr. Thomas and Janna
  - (a) Discussed concerns from Roundtable
    - (i) Testing, scholarship jobs, etc.
    - (ii) Will receive clear guidance from Dr. Thomas and Janna soon
  - (4) Still have associate positions for lots of committees!
  - (5) All chair positions are staffed
- ii) German:
  - (1) StuGov dinner! Fill out the When to Meet as to your normal availability
  - (2) Have designs for apparel finished, and have quotes done
  - (3) Will be doing virtual bonding event -- online board games

#### 4) Old Business

##### [A Resolution Supporting a Collaboration Between the Center for Diversity and Inclusion and the Purple Friday Committee for National Coming Out Day](#) (German)

- a) Shortened title; also included Purple Friday Committee as sponsors; additional bullet point
- b) Discussion:
  - i) Wuennenberg: I oppose this resolution because it would violate the religious practices of some students on campus
  - ii) Wren: As students, we need to be unbiased and support all students
  - iii) Holt: It is very important that minority groups feel represented and supported by Student Government; many religious groups on campus do support LGBT issues
  - iv) Eli Avery: Phrasing of LGBTQ supports specific movement within the country; using this terminology could be perceived by student body as Student Government backing certain bodies
  - v) Sprehe: This is not a mandatory event, so religious individuals do not need to participate
  - vi) Tillman: This is not a political resolution
  - vii) Mike Owsley: Lots of Republicans support the LGBT community
  - viii) Wuennenberg: Student Government receives funding from students and so we represent what students are paying for; many students might not be comfortable funding this community
  - ix) Owen Smith: The resolution does not use the phrase LGBTQ+ anywhere; there is no politically charged language here
  - x) Holt: Funding that Student Government receives has been used for partisan purposes in the past; this is about supporting students rather than choosing a side
  - xi) Woods: The beliefs that Student Government are built on rely upon a separation of church and state; this issue is about general rights rather than a religious/partisan issue
  - xii) Meyer: We are elected to represent the students
  - xiii) Montúfar: It's also important to note that many of the decisions/resolutions we make will be partisan. So long as these decisions are representative of the student body
  - xiv) Barge: We have passed partisan resolutions/issues in the past; vote based on what will improve Truman, not based on political issues
  - xv) Wuennenberg: This resolution forces students to pay for practices that violate their religious beliefs
  - xvi) MacLeod: Students agree that some of their money will be used for Student Government

- xvii)** Wren: What does coming out even mean? This resolution doesn't actually specify coming out as sexuality-based
- xviii)** Holt: The resolution doesn't actually mention funding
- xix)** Myers: Past events could be considered to have violated religious beliefs (i.e. witchcraft in certain movies) -- there were not complaints from these events
- xx)** Alexander: While I respectfully abstain, I agree with sentiments from Shania and Tori
- xxi)** Bates: Student Government's purchases are only posters

**c)** Voting: Passes 17-1-3

## **5) New Business**

Discussion on Racial Justice at Truman State University and Student Government Efforts for Equity and Inclusion (Alexander)

**a)** Alexander:

**i)** This conversation will happen in two parts; first as takeaways from Strategic Plan and other readings; second as individual plans from committees

**b)** Discussion point 1: Takeaways from required readings and University action over the summer/during the semester

**i)** Bates:

(1) The first inclusive excellence plan -- lots of unrest within higher ed. in the state

(a) Campus Climate survey, open forums, collected potential action items

(b) Second committee was appointed to take the first committee's report and identify strategies that could be quickly implemented, or to work on a plan for particular implementations that students felt strongly about

(c) For example, Flag Display project implementation as a result of this plan

**ii)** Montúfar:

(1) Working on second part of the strategic plan

(2) First part is kind of a fountain of ideas; proves that each committee can put forward ideas

(3) Black students and queer students tend to have lowest reports of quality campus climate

(4) Strategic plans don't actually do much because they are slow-moving; there are many levels of advocacy that can happen to make campus more equitable

(5) Students have also given many ideas for equity and inclusion, such as the ABC petition

**iii)** Alexander:

(1) We have so much that we can go of as Student Government; lots of things can happen this year to improve student experience

(2) In regards to faculty diversification, where are these efforts/has the university implemented these?

(a) Montúfar: HR is always somewhat surprised and confused when this topic is brought up. Truman is doing some things that aren't standard practice (such as not doing double-blind reviews of applications) -- now is a good opportunity to continue looking into this

**iv)** Wuennenberg:

(1) What is the Oregon State Model?

(a) Bates: Model for how diversity and inclusion should be worked into curriculum

(2) Zero-tolerance for verbal abuse -- what is defined as verbal abuse?

- (a) Montúfar: This goes through Title IX, which have very clear definitions
- v) Tillman:  
 (1) These issues are solvable, but haven't been addressed. If we all work on these issues, they can be accomplished
- vi) German:  
 (1) This conversation should continue within our committees
- vii) O. Smith:  
 (1) Worry about preceding with changes without clearly knowing campus policies; have some of these goals been accomplished and we simply aren't aware of them? Would like to view data from climate student so we can clearly see what the situation is
- viii) Wren:  
 (1) Thanks to Katie and Josh for moving quickly with this, such as the Black student representative  
 (2) This year, we do have the budget to make changes to show support for minority communities
- ix) Knight:  
 (1) Wondering what current job descriptions are and how they will be changed to encourage more diverse applicants  
 (2) Majority of these points are perhaps too vague to make specific change
- c) Discussion point 2: Actions Student Government can take
- i) Alexander:  
 (1) We meet very often with faculty and administrators to get as much information as possible  
 (2) Action from Executive Board:  
 (a) Black Student Representative is just a small step  
 (b) I would like people to be elected; how can we recruit more effectively?
- ii) Tillman:  
 (1) Better and more readily available statistics would be helpful to know actual buildup of student body, faculty, and staff
- iii) Wren:  
 (1) If we all actually go to events and meetings, we can show interest and invite conversation  
 (2) Bates: The only way we learn is by making ourselves uncomfortable; NPHC and other marginalized groups exist to amplify a community; majority-white groups talk more about self-motivation/personal development. Must be able to meet somewhere in the middle
- iv) Barker:  
 (1) We need to be talking to these students. We will not actually understand issues unless we actually talk to people and get their perspectives  
 (2) Every single committee should be sending members to organizations' meetings so we can learn and gain better understanding
- v) Montúfar:  
 (1) Potential for targeted pipelines and collaborations; consistent outreach  
 (2) Student Government is very time consuming; it's important to have tiered levels of involvement within Student Government  
 (3) Once students are on the body, we must make sure it is a welcoming environment
- vi) Kershaw:  
 (1) Environmental Affairs ideas:  
 (a) Reaching out to more groups; educating on climate change/environmental justice, environmental activities

- (b) Commit to having a committee meeting that specifically focuses on equity and inclusion
- vii)** Holt:
  - (1) We should ask these organizations to appoint a representative to Student Government in addition to reaching out
  - (2) We need to stop relying on the diversity committee to pass every resolution related to equity and inclusion
- viii)** Myers:
  - (1) Perhaps highlighting certain holidays for Purple Friday to help folks feel more welcome
- ix)** Bono:
  - (1) Having some kind of flyer with minority groups and meeting times/locations would be helpful
  - (2) We should emphasize that people can come to gallery meetings and have their voices heard
- x)** Barker:
  - (1) We should be careful to make sure that we acknowledge that there is a spectrum of experiences; this is why it is important to reach out to individual students
  - (2) Health, Wellness, and Safety:
    - (a) Planning on having an event that looks at issues specific to minority groups in relation to Health, Wellness, and Safety
    - (b) Talking with UCS about how they can expand equity and inclusion efforts
      - (i) Bates: UCS is currently understaffed. There is currently a tele-health counselor from DC, who is certified to counsel outside of state lines
    - (c) Looking into having conversations with DPS to ensure a safe campus environment
- xi)** German:
  - (1) TruOutdoors is a great space for International students; would also like to work with Environmental Affairs about expanding this
  - (2) Worried about overwhelming identity groups with lots of emails reaching out
  - (3) Potential risk for advertising minority group meetings; would need to check with these groups before publicizing this info
- xii)** MacLeod:
  - (1) Would like to caution against committee chairs choosing just a few ideas; must be a mindset change
  - (2) External Affairs:
    - (a) Cultural calendar for the community
    - (b) Being able to send representatives to community organizations and to work with them continuously
    - (c) Reaching out to A.T. Still and Kirksville k-12 public schools
- xiii)** Rotimi:
  - (1) Visiting minority groups' organizations will be helpful; but must also work on having a less hostile environment on the body
    - (a) We need to work on letting minoritized students know that they are welcome on the body
- xiv)** Alexander:
  - (1) Thank you all for a productive and intentional conversation!
- xv)** Bates:
  - (1) Employers want global and cultural fluency in their employees; keep this in mind as you continue in your life past Truman

**6) Announcements**

- a)** Bates: Homecoming 2020 is happening! There will be some cool announcements coming this week; be excited!
- b)** Tillman: Some music department recitals happening this week via livestream
- c)** Bono: Will be making posters October 8th for Tru100 symposium

**Adjourned: 7:06 p.m.**