

**TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT GOVERNMENT
FIFTEENTH SESSION OF THE 2020-2021 GENERAL BODY
November 8, 2020**

Called to Order: 5:00 p.m.

1) Preliminary Items

- a) Roll Call
- b) Approval of Minutes
- c) Gallery Introductions/Business
- d) Membership Appointment/Resignation
 - i) Cecilia Amoako as an Associate Senator to the Diversity Committee
 - (1) Approved
 - ii) Rachel Holt and Adam Barker as Holiday Party Co-Czars
 - (1) Approved
- e) Oath of Office
- f) Changes to the Agenda

2) Auxiliary Reports

- a) Speaker of the Student Senate
 - i) Will be bringing forward resolution for updates to the Standing Rules as per U&I guidelines
 - ii) Need to bring forward resolutions next meeting
- b) Faculty Advisor
- c) Staff Advisor
 - i) Bates:
 - (1) If you want to spend money by the end of the semester/at beginning of next semester, please talk to Jesse
- d) Student Representative to the Board of Governors
 - i) Smeltzer:
 - (1) Next meeting
- e) Athletic Fee Accountability Committee
- f) Student Representative to SAB
 - i) CochranL
 - (1) Tuesday, Last Lecture 7pm Baldwin
 - (2) Rafiki movie 7pm Georgian Rooms
- g) Student Representative to ResLife
 - i) No report
- h) Black Student Representative
 - i) Eagal:
 - (1) Went to ABC meeting and meeting for National Association of Black Accountants
 - (2) Met with Shania, have a few points for ExComm
 - (3) Looking into state grant for underrepresented STEM students
- i) Academic Affairs Committee
 - i) Purinton:
 - (1) Money expenditure coming up tonight
- j) Diversity Committee
 - i) N/A
- k) Environmental Affairs Committee
 - i) Kershaw:
 - (1) Awake showing went well; will send out link to watch it online
- l) External Affairs Committee
 - i) MacLeod:

- (1) Trying to schedule time to meet with Sandy Collock for changing precinct lines; won't have updates for a while
 - (a) Working with Mike to identify areas
 - (2) Owen sent resolution for permanently having election day off; won't be bringing forward until next semester
 - ii) Bates:**
 - (1) Discuss what you can and can't do around polling place (ex: wearing clothing in support of certain candidates)
 - m) Student Affairs Committee**
 - i) Barges:**
 - (1) Student Appreciation week, passing out goods in Alumni Room
 - (a) Have vouchers, finalizing t-shirt purchase
 - (b) Wanting to make posters with responses from faculty regarding student appreciation
 - (c) Want to extend budget to \$99 for quotes from faculty and for posters for information
 - (2) Still trying to think about the salt drive
 - (3) Talking with RHA about collaborations
 - n) Health, Wellness, and Safety Co-Committee**
 - i) Woods:**
 - (1) Will be getting brochure information in and editing down to format next semester
 - ii) Barker:**
 - (1) Thursday the 12th, online Zoom mindfulness session for quarantine students
 - (2) Will be interviewing Nancy Daley-Moore and colleague for faculty wellness spotlight
 - (3) Mindfulness event with Dr. Dixon coming up
 - o) Purple Friday Committee**
 - i) Myers:**
 - (1) Postponed meeting due to election day
 - p) Parking Appeals Committee**
 - i) Alexander: What is the state of parking on campus?**
 - (1) Paris: People are still parking where they aren't supposed to. Meeting through the end of the semester
 - q) IT Director**
 - i) N/A**
 - r) PR Director**
 - i) Knight:**
 - (1) School is having issue with limiting covid contacts; graphic with information about "pods"
 - (2) Local business recommendation project is going well
 - (3) Mindfulness session with Dr. Dixon coming up
 - (4) Working with Owen for graphics: tabling information for Student Appreciation Week and collages with student quotes for professors
- 3) Executive Reports**
 - a) Treasurer**
 - i) No report**
 - b) Secretary**
 - i) Collective calendar is in the Slack; please check this regularly and update me with any events that should be added**
 - c) The President and Vice President of the Student Association**
 - i) Alexander:**

- (1) Planning Women's Leadership Conference for next semester, later in March -- if you are interested in being a chair, contact Katie and Josh
- (2) OAF meetings and plans in the works
- (3) Sending out graphic soon with tips for finishing up semester safely
- (4) Attended faculty senate ExComm, discussed possible changes with grading policy; opted to not address problem in terms of pass/fail grading (concerns with governance preparation and student success in major/graduate school)
 - (a) But, still wanting to try to help give students flexibility; will send out two letters, one to faculty (urging faculty to extend deadline into dead week after Thanksgiving, option for Incomplete), one to students (reminders about dead week and opportunity to catch up, encourage to talk with professors, resource to appeal grades)
- (5) Talked at ExComm regarding quarantine/isolation resources
 - (a) Janna will be reworking information document for quarantined students, will continue to create support for students

ii) German:

- (1) Still looking for student government representative for Truman Week planning committee
- (2) Room lottery due tomorrow for us; message Katie and Josh if you want to reserve a room
- (3) If you have a resolution, needs to be added to agenda by next week
- (4) Composite is almost done, will be printed after a few more tweaks

iii) Woods: If anyone has any questions about the incomplete process, reach out to Tori

iv) MacLeod: Are you at all worried about the timeline for planning the Women's Leadership Conference?

- (1) Alexander: We have a lot of resources built up for this. Hoping to get the process set up over break to see if we can get extra time outside of Spring semester

v) Bates: Can make room reservations after lottery; this is just priority period

4) Old Business

5) New Business

a) [A Resolution adding Union and Involvement Services' Required Language to the Standing Rules of the Truman State University Student Government](#) (E. Smith)

- i)** E. Smith: Feel free to contact Emily if you have any wording suggestions; makes our governing documents up to date with U&I policy

ii) Questions:

- (1) Barker: Why are we not just putting this in the constitution?
 - (a) E. Smith: Would need to have student body vote, but also needs to be in our governing documents
 - (b) Bates: Clause three is not part of the required language, the rest is; for many groups, all they have is a constitution, but we have multiple standing documents

iii) Discussion:

- (1) Holt: I think it makes sense to include this in the Standing Rules, and I'm glad this will be in our governing documents now
- (2) O. Smith: Thanks to Emily for taking the time to do this
- (3) Barker: I don't think Clause 3 is necessary
 - (a) E. Smith: Would it be better to reword to say these can't be suspended because they are university policy?

- b) [Faculty/Staff Appreciation Expenditure](#) (Purinton)**
- i)** Purinton: \$112 for posters for Faculty and Staff Appreciation Week; Publishing and Printing will let us get 6 posters, one for each of 5 schools and one in U&I for staff
 - ii)** Questions:
 - (1) Bates: Does the poster for staff need to be a full poster? Might reach out to chair of Staff Council to ask about best way to make sure this reaches all staff
 - iii)** Discussion:
 - (1) Alexander: Might increase price a little bit to include a little extra just in case; \$125 or \$130 might be better
 - iv)** Adopted by unanimous consent
- c) [Holiday Party Expenditure](#) (Barker, Holt)**
- i)** Holt: In order to keep event Covid friendly, will be looking into how to do scavenger hunt/StuGov trivia/Zoom option; open to suggestions! Current date is Friday November 20th at 6pm
 - ii)** Barker: Sodexo holiday cookies, hot apple cider, holiday decorations
 - iii)** Questions:
 - (1) Bates: How are you thinking about incorporating people who don't celebrate christmas?
 - (a) Holt: Wouldn't be a specifically Christmas tree
 - (b) Barker: Will also have some non-specific decorations
 - (2) Myers: Suggest considering food allergies in terms of snacks
 - iv)** Discussion:
 - (1) Bates: I would bump food budget a little bit, since individually wrapped items might be more expensive
 - (a) Barker: Will bump this up to \$50
 - v)** Passes 16-1-0
- d) Discussion Item: GPA Scholarship Retention**
- i)** Meyer:
 - (1) Met with Dr. Gooch, Jonathan Vieker, director of financial aid; looked at different peer institution regarding merit-based scholarships
 - (a) Most requirements fall in 2.0, with 4.0 being the highest
 - (b) Considering sliding scale method
 - (c) What is more important: lowering scholarship job requirements or lowering GPA requirements? We are leaning towards lowering GPA requirements -- what should we aim for this to be?
 - ii)** Holt:
 - (1) I know a lot of people who had to drop out after Freshman year because they couldn't retain their scholarships; very little forgiveness for Freshman mistakes and makes it harder to maintain GPA/keep scholarships
 - (2) Agree with changing GPA requirements rather than scholarship jobs; scholarship jobs are good for resumes
 - iii)** MacLeod:
 - (1) Also think lowering GPA would be much better than lowering scholarship job requirements
 - iv)** O. Smith:
 - (1) As a Freshman, I see so many students doing jobs that are important for the upkeep of the university
 - v)** Kershaw:
 - (1) Would support changing to sliding scale; makes sense that higher scholarship amounts would require higher GPA
 - vi)** Alexander:

- (1) Would also tentatively support sliding scale; though, 3.25 is perhaps too high for even the highest scholarships
- vii)** Sprehe:
 (1) What is the scholarship requirement currently?
 (2) Alexander: 3.25 across the board for 100% of scholarship retention
- viii)** Wuennenberg:
 (1) Would also agree that 3.25 is too high; ex, science classes that almost no one gets an A in
- ix)** Bono:
 (1) Approximate timeline for introducing this?
 (2) Meyer: As early as next fall
- x)** Bates:
 (1) How do these numbers impact first-gen students who don't have the same support systems?
 (2) Number of hours is correlated with MO minimum wage; hours will likely continue to go down as minimum wage increases
- xi)** Meyer:
 (1) Also discussed students' knowledge of jobs on campus -- are you aware of what is available/how to go about getting these jobs?
 (2) Some jobs involve being a TA, some involve working the hall desk. What are students' feelings about different levels of difficulty?
- xii)** E. Smith:
 (1) Leadership scholars are encouraged to specifically get jobs that are more difficult (i.e. not hall desk-type jobs)
- xiii)** Holt:
 (1) Worked three different scholarship jobs; all have been significantly different in amount of work and effort; no standardized value for the work you are doing/level of disconnect between departments
- xiv)** Wren:
 (1) Did not have job lined up, would not have if not for Student Government; work with Freshman on lining up jobs earlier
 (2) Didn't know that Leadership scholars were expected to have specific jobs; is that just for this scholarship?
- xv)** O. Smith:
 (1) I personally know where to find the jobs on TruView, but think this could have been stressed a lot more during Truman Week
- xvi)** Bates:
 (1) Figuring out what communication looks like is important; lots of students don't know that Trupositions exists, and it is not the best website
 (2) Try to make workload clear in job descriptions, but not a lot of standards that are required/requested across the board
 (3) Sprehe:
 (a) Are all positions posted here?
 (b) Bates: I post every job, but I know this varies
- xvii)** Owsley:
 (1) Considering that the resources for jobs aren't very evident, adds to stress
- xviii)** Wren:
 (1) Encourage objective measures that these jobs have; would also love for Career Center to host job fair for scholarship jobs only
- xix)** Myers:
 (1) I think both more intensive/easier jobs should be open; allows students who have lots of other obligations to have less tiring job
- xx)** Holt:

- (1) Trupositions is your friend; email department chair inquiries
 - (2) Very important for Freshman students to have some kind of forgiveness program to ensure failed classes don't weigh them down for the rest of their college career
- xxi)** Karki:
- (1) Freshman students might be adjusting to a new life and academic rigor, surely different from high school " they should be given some leniency and the scholarship renewal requirement could be enacted from their second year of school/
 - (2) students from low-income, first generation households, international students, whose first language may not be English, or students under any extenuating circumstance should be able to file for alternate aid resources if their GPA does not meet the renewal requirement
- xxii)** Meyer:
- (1) Also discussed student advocacy for TAs/lab jobs; ensure that students aren't taken advantage of
 - (2) Do you think students would come to scholarship job fair? What is more important, lowering GPA or job requirements?

6) Announcements

Adjourned: 6:12 p.m.