

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
November 11, 2020**

**Called to order: 7:47 p.m.**

**1) Preliminary Items**

**a) Roll Call**

**2) Auxiliary Reports**

**a) Speaker of the Student Senate**

i) E. Smith:

(1) D Phi E might require me to protemp at general body this week

**b) Academic Affairs Committee Chair**

i) Purinton:

(1) Civics exam is finally getting fixed; will go to UGC tomorrow, will hopefully be open book and not proctored

(2) Faculty appreciation week post has been put on social media; mass email will also be going out

(3) Talked with Josh Grandstaff and worked on S&S research day for Spring

**c) Black Student Representative**

i) Egal:

(1) ABC petition called for swift action against acts of racism; Zac Burden discussed racist signage posted in Kirksville, Student Government might consider making a statement in response

(2) My position can be dismissed with the next president/vice president; is there a way to have permanent appointment on the diversity committee to make sure efforts don't fizzle out

(3) German: Do you want us to make a statement about the signs?

(a) Egal: Maybe not the signs, just wanted to bring it up

(4) Montúfar: Responding to the signs might seem late at this point, but we might look into how Truman responds to events like this from a PR perspective, perhaps like a procedure for how the university responds

**d) Diversity Committee Chair**

i) Montúfar:

(1) Met with Janna; will be meeting again in Spring to discuss GNH

(a) Also talked about LGBTQ+ resource center, will be making new committee to look at this more

(2) Presenting money motion this Sunday for commission; use this as visual element of land acknowledgement on campus

(3) Shania will be taking Spring semester off from most of StuGov work

**e) Environmental Affairs Committee Chair**

i) Kershaw:

(1) Emma had access to some of the old divestment campaign stuff from 2015, so have all the notes

(2) Recycling seems to be not happening. One of the housekeepers told the SusOffice that they have been told to throw recycling away rather than actually recycle it; not widely spreading this information, but looking into it

- (a) Alexander: We will check with Laura about this
    - (3) Will be giving Shania money for land acknowledgement artist
  - ii) Alexander: How are the birds?
    - (1) Kershaw: There is one bird house already on campus. Also squirrel houses
- f) External Affairs Committee Chair
  - i) MacLeod:
    - (1) Meeting with County Clerk, not sure when yet
    - (2) PJ will be keeping up on what the County Commission is doing
    - (3) Reached out to identity-based orgs at AT Still and Kirksville High School
    - (4) Looking over resolution with Student Affairs on developing permanent election day time off
    - (5) Want to start working with Emma Rollings on biking project
    - (6) Would like to help Shania with artist commission
  - ii) Alexander:
    - (1) Spent almost all of meeting with Dr. Thomas talking about election day time off
    - (2) Dr. Thomas asked if this is for the whole campus or just for students having class off?
      - (a) MacLeod: Was planning on specifically focusing on classes rather than whole campus closure
      - (b) Alexander: This first needs to be approved by Faculty Senate to change the academic calendar, then BOG. Would need to work with Dr. Alberts and Dr. Gooch from Faculty Senate. Might need to take a break from somewhere else (like making midterm break 3 instead of 4 days)
        - (i) Also offered counter arguments: Employers don't give most employees a whole day off, so this might be an opportunity for students to learn how to prioritize; Why do we need a whole day off when students can vote absentee or can register to vote in Kirksville and don't need to travel?; Voting lines in Kirksville are typically fairly short
    - iii) Montúfar: Could people still vote in the SUB if the campus is fully closed?
- g) Health, Wellness, and Safety Co-Chairs
  - i) Woods:
    - (1) Had meeting with Partners in Prevention
      - (a) Discussed opiate/stimulant usage
      - (b) MO has no drug monitoring program, except for in STL
      - (c) Lots of schools have resources for students struggling with substance abuse; Truman doesn't have this, but statewide virtual meetings on Thursdays at 5; want to see if there is a way to get a program on campus
      - (d) Got Wellbeing survey results back
        - (i) 343 people responded, looking at wellness of students; 93% of students reported high stress; 54% have been impacted by pandemic; above average levels of stress; UCS services are not being sought out by many students;

large percentage of stress coming from academics;  
discomfort at home, binge drinking, has gone up as well

- (2) Student Public Health Association has Covid info and good resources
  - (3) Greek Life continuing to try to inform members about safe practices; some groups doing okay
  - (4) In 2018, law established that medical marijuana legal in MO; having issues with marijuana usage/storage on campus; look into students storing these products if they have a medical card
    - (a) Kershaw: One of my friends who is an SA has said they are required to report anything they see
    - (b) MacLeod: Medical marijuana is legal at a state level, though... why would federal issues impact this?
    - (c) Woods: At this point, medical marijuana is considered a medication; can someone be arrested if they are in possession and have the medical card? More concerned with storage than allowing students to smoke on campus
  - (5) Barker: How many survey responses?
    - (a) Woods: 343/1,200 students. Usually expect 600.
- ii) Barker:
- (1) Zoom mindfulness session for quarantine students tomorrow
  - (2) Meeting with Brad Turnbull tomorrow for discuss diversity and inclusion and mental health
  - (3) Mindfulness event Tuesday 7pm in SUB activities room
  - (4) Talking with Sara Seifert about parking lot light issues
  - (5) Meeting tomorrow to research into UCS/DPS and mental health
  - (6) Wren: Can anyone attend mindfulness, or is it just for quarantine students?
    - (a) Barker: Intended specifically for quarantine students
- h) Purple Friday Committee Chair**
- i) Myers:
    - (1) Purple Friday probably won't happen again this semester, so focusing on plans for Spring
    - (2) Reaching out to Alek about Thanksgiving-themed post
    - (3) E. Smith: Use our hydroflask and give it away please
- i) Student Affairs Committee Chair**
- i) Barge:
    - (1) Student Appreciation Week:
      - (a) Will be tabling on the Mall instead of the Alumni room on 18th and 19th, in Alumni room rest of week
      - (b) Spoke with Jemma and RHA will be sending out info on student appreciation week
      - (c) Owen was talking with Alek about getting posters made, but no progress as of yet
      - (d) T-shirts have been approved, but might be some issues with time schedule. Will talk with business office tomorrow to try to get this straightened out
    - (2) Will be meeting with Physical Plant tomorrow to talk about salt drive for next semester

- (3) Speaking with RHA and trying to stay connected
- (4) Got music in the Hub for International Education Week!
- ii) Alexander: Did you say you will be driving down to Columbia to pick up the t-shirts? Not really supposed to spend personal money... Try to check every other resource before deciding to drive down to CoMO

### 3) Executive Reports

#### a) Treasurer

##### i) Wren:

- (1) Emailed every committee chair to double check expenditures and future plans
- (2) Planning on making small changes to Spring semester and will be sending that to Josh and Katie over break
- (3) StuGov half marathon March 27, 2021! Your entry fee will be paid for if you sign up now!

#### b) Secretary

##### i) Lesch:

- (1) Trying to get shared drive set up stil, waiting to hear back about how to do this

#### c) The President and Vice President of the Student Association

##### i) Alexander:

- (1) Spending less than \$100 to print certificates
- (2) Would like to talk about strategic plan for comments/feedback
  - (a) Kershaw: Looked like a typical strategic plan; some things are vague, like three initiatives point (but allows room to explore/work)
  - (b) Barker: I agree that it is a little vague. If we want feedback, I think we would need actual plans going forward; look forward to seeing where online elements go
  - (c) Montúfar: Worked on part of the plan; most metrics are based on large campus surveys; think we should also include some kind of qualitative data that surveys might miss; in terms of campus climate metrics, concerned that survey did not consider specific groups when examining feelings on campus; for transparency purposes, might be helpful to have more presentations/information given to students (ex. Town halls or updating website)
  - (d) MacLeod: Would like to see more specific actionable goals and updates in each area, to make sure progress is made

**Adjourned: 8:45 p.m.**