

Truman State University Student Government
Third Session of the 2021-2022 General Body
August 29th, 2021

Convened: 17:00

1) Preliminary Items

- a) Roll Call
- b) Approval of Previous Minutes
 - i) Approved.
- c) Changes to the Agenda
 - i) None.
- d) Gallery Introductions & Business
- e) Membership Appointment & Resignation
 - i) Minor Appointments
 - ii) Major Appointments

(1) Appointment of Alex Crawford as PR Director

- (a) Montúfar: We interviewed Alex at the end of last semester and she came prepared with a binder full of pictures and ideas. We wanted to expand out of instagram to gain a wider audience and Alex was super on board with this.
- (b) Crawford: Shania pretty much hit everything head on, but I know that part of this will be a learning process because we're trying something new and just figuring out how this position will work.
- (c) Motion to enter closed session.
- (d) Appointed by unanimous vote.

(2) Appointment of Dan King as Legislative Director

- (a) Kershaw: we're very excited to appoint Dan in this role because he knows a lot about Missouri politics and he seemed to do well in the position last year.
- (b) King: There is a lot of work to be done and I would like to continue where I left off last year... I really enjoyed my time in the role.
- (c) Motion to enter closed session.
- (d) Appointed by unanimous vote.

(3) Appointment of Sutton Purinton as Co-Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee

- (a) Montúfar: Sutton served in this position before and did a lot of work with academic accolades. Sutton is really good at staying in touch with us and we feel that she was an intuitive choice for this position.
- (b) Purinton: Thank you for the kind words. Over this summer, I thought of a lot of policy-related goals that I wanted to work through, and I'm super excited to continue working on

the academic accolades process to make it even more accessible and fun.

- (c) Bates: What was your most challenging thing when doing your chairship alone?
- (d) Purinton: Academic accolades.
- (e) Bates: What makes you want to do it again?
- (f) Purinton: Academic accolades.
- (g) Motion to enter closed session.
- (h) Appointed by unanimous vote.

f) Oath of Office

2) Auxiliary Reports

a) Faculty Advisor

b) Staff Advisor

i) Bates: Student Affairs is no longer; there has been a realignment. Student Life now oversees U&I, the Rec, Family Complete, the Bookstore, and OCCS. Academic Affairs oversees the Career Center and Access and Disability Services, and Enrollment Management and Marketing oversees Residence Life and Sodexo.

ii) Bates: Mask mandate is on for indoors, if you aren't watching KTVO I encourage you to check that because we are in a vulnerable time. Please make sure to take care of yourselves and each other.

iii) Bates: We are caught up on expenses and I have forwarded the housing bill to Jesse.

iv) Bates: The Student Union Building is not used for classrooms this year, so the equipment that was there last year is locked up unless you request it ahead of time. You need to be thinking a minimum of three weeks in advance, particularly when we're trying to order things. The same goes for room and posters. This is to make sure that it is manageable and done on all parts because it has to go through so many different individuals.

v) Bates: Please do not buy things with your own money because there are certain things that I am unable to reimburse you for, like food and printed materials (stickers, promo items, etc.).

c) Board of Governors Representative

i) Smeltzer: The summer meetings are really just a lot of reports, but the two main takeaways are that the board approved the gender neutral housing policy. The second thing is that we voted on the budget in June and revised it later after we got an increase.

d) FAC Representative

e) RHA Representative

f) SAB Representative

g) Organizational Representatives

h) Athletic Fee Accountability Committee

i) Environmental Fee Accountability Committee

j) Academic Affairs Committee

- i) E. Smith: I've been brainstorming and Sutton has been brainstorming, so we're excited to get to brainstorming together.
- k) Diversity and Inclusion Committee
 - i) Cooper: I brainstormed some things; I made a plan of what I want to get done.
- l) Environmental Affairs Committee
 - i) Sprehe: More brainstorming! I have recycling bins that need to be handed out to people. I'm thinking Purple Friday. Sustainability week is coming up as well. (October 4th-9th).
- m) External Affairs Committee
 - i) Owlsey: Lots of brainstorming.
- n) Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee
 - i) Woods: Similar situation, brainstorming! We have twenty things on our list that we want to get done this year.
 - ii) Grandstaff: Apart from brainstorming, we talked a lot about the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NOMI) that has a lot of resources that we hope to utilize in the future.
 - iii) Woods: We're still working on the Wellness Committee stuff.
 - iv) Bates: In case you're asked, there was a NOMI chapter here for about a year and a half, but students could not keep up with the requirements to sustain it.
 - v) Grandstaff: What year was that?
 - vi) Bates: It's been within the last decade.
- o) Student Affairs Committees
 - i) Barge: The main thing I'm working on right now is evaluating how Student Affairs should look this year, like making it more bureaucratic so that we can work more with other committees.
- p) Purple Friday Committee
 - i) Kershaw: We are going to be tabling the next few Fridays to advertise for elections.
- q) Parking Appeals Committee
- r) Legislative Director
 - i) King: I just stumbled across our State Senate's website and there is some controversial stuff on there. Be on the lookout for that.
 - ii) Bates: Could you go into more specifics?
 - iii) King: There is a bill that says no divisive subjects can be taught in schools and there is a list of banned topics. The other one is the female-only athletics act.
- s) IT Director
 - i) Myers: Still waiting to get access to the website, but that probably won't happen until new elections take place. I know that Owen updated it over the summer, but we want to work on redesigning it as the year goes on.
 - ii) Bates: Just so that you're aware, there is a really big thing going on with copyrighted images, so all the student organizations' websites have been shut down. Groups have gotten fined for using copyrighted images.

t) PR Director

- i) Crawford: I am just in a brainstorming phase like a lot of you guys are.

3) **Executive Board Reports**

a) Speaker

- i) O. Smith: Elections are coming up quick, I have the handbook and the posters motions coming today. Come see me if you have election-related concerns. We are going to continue working on the Zoom setup, so thank you to Laura for helping us get that set up today.
- ii) Myers: When will next week's meeting be? (Labor day weekend).
- iii) O. Smith: I have it set for Monday at 7:00 p.m., but watch Slack for the location.

b) Secretary

- i) If you have any dates that you need to talk about in your reports or announcements, please put them in the agenda or send me an email (amr4861) ahead of time.

c) Treasurer

- i) Wren: No report.

d) President and Vice President

- i) Kershaw: Thank you to everyone who helped with Truman Week events. Now, announcements for meetings: Excomm meetings will be Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m. and Student Government dinners will be Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. Also, it's time for IM sports! Check your spam folder if you liked the message but didn't get an invitation. Also, come talk to me if you did not get a name tag last year. There will be a penalty for not returning name tags.
- ii) Sprehe: For dinner, could I suggest a Quad dinner if it's not too hot?
- iii) Kershaw/Montúfar: Yes, maybe.
- iv) O. Smith: I will not have assigned seats, but I will have the name plates out for you all.
- v) E. Smith: The complex is back, so we could probably use that for dinner if SAB isn't.
- vi) Grandstaff: What is the penalty for the name tags?
- vii) Kershaw: A fine.
- viii) Bates: You used to have to pay \$12, but now they're free, so in order to keep them free they need to be turned in.
- ix) Barge: What is the penalty for Excomm meetings? Because I have class from 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- x) O. Smith: Attendance penalties are at the discretion of the Secretary, so you would need to talk with Abby.
- xi) Montúfar: I talked to President Thomas about UCS being very understaffed at the moment. They're still trying to figure out scheduling, but as far as we know there are only two on-campus counselors. If they're totally booked, you can go directly through to Family Complete to book someone.
- xii) Montúfar: Masks and vaccines are being reassessed, and the current plan is to collect vaccine card information so that they can decide if a mandate is necessary.

- xiii)** Montúfar: Gender neutral housing has been in the works for 12 years, and it's a little confusing because it's not a part of the housing portal yet, but right now we just need to direct students to talk to Residence Life so that they can be individually paired up.
- xiv)** Meyer: We talked about the vaccine, and some people were worried that the sample size was too small. Do they have an idea of how big they want the sample size? It feels like it's discouraging unvaccinated people from doing it.
- xv)** Montúfar: They don't have an incentive right now, but the message that she was getting across is that if we get a majority of students to upload their cards, that kind of tells us who is not vaccinated using the process of elimination. I'm also wondering why there isn't a stricter reason to do it.
- xvi)** Woods: Is there a specific way that they will be seeing the cards, for example, online? How will they differentiate from on-campus students vs. off-campus students?
- xvii)** Kershaw: There will be a way to upload it online, but they will also be able to scan people's vaccination cards.
- xviii)** Rowley: Anything that you want me to do about gender neutral housing?
- xix)** Montúfar: Our next step would be talking to Jamie.

4) Old Business

- a) N/A

5) New Business

- a) [Elections Handbook](#) (O. Smith)
 - i)** O. Smith: The biggest change from previous elections is that the Executive Board talked about not having petition signatures. We want to use this semester as a test to see how that goes. Also, I have updated the language to reflect that we will follow all updated University COVID guidelines.
 - ii)** Rowley: What was the motive of removing the signing of petitions? What was the actual evidence for doing this?
 - iii)** O. Smith: Generally, our election participation has not been so great on campus, so we were motivated to make a change so that we can get those numbers up.
 - iv)** Wren: A lot of big universities, I'll specifically quote John Hopkins, talk about how petitions become a numbers game and really take away from the connection-building aspect because people are just trying to get signatures.
 - v)** Meyer: The numbers have always been low, and we need to find a way to get people to actually care.
 - vi)** O. Smith: Our election numbers have been very low in the past two semesters.
 - vii)** Bates: Generally, Spring elections are bigger than Fall.
 - viii)** Myers: The only limit we have now is the online form, so how long does that take to fill out?
 - ix)** O. Smith: It's very short, it's only about five fields.

- x)** Bates: I can use that to check grades and determine eligibility.
- xi)** Wren: We have a lot of requirements, so if someone wants to run, they're going to have to sit in multiple meetings and fill out forms, so I think those things will cut down on the riff-raff.
- xii)** Rowley: If our actual goal is to have a bigger turnout, I think we need to explore other ways to expand our reach because I don't think removing petitions will help as much.
- xiii)** Montúfar: I think the most direct impact will be the amount of people in the race at all, but I think we can be more competitive.
- xiv)** O. Smith: If there are more people running, there are more people connected to people who are running, which gives us a bigger group overall.
- xv)**
- b) [Elections Poster Money Motion](#)** (O. Smith)
 - i)** O. Smith: I move to pass this money motion.
 - ii)** Woods: Second.
 - iii)** O. Smith: Shania gets a lot of credit for this penguin poster, and this other poster informs students about what we do and why it's important to get involved.
 - iv)** Myers: Are there any plans for further posters?
 - v)** O. Smith: No.
 - vi)** Meyer: I want it on the record that I am a fan of the penguin poster.
 - vii)** Cooper: My concern is that there is so much text on the poster, is there any way we can reduce the amount of text on there?
 - viii)** O. Smith: This is the reduced version, but we can work on condensing the information even more.
 - ix)** Myers: I love the penguin poster, but I think we might want to consider a more-formal option.
 - x)** Meyer: Motion to adopt by unanimous consent.
 - xi)** Rowley: Second.
- c) [Fall 2021 Budget](#)** (Wren)
 - i)** Wren: I will bring your attention to two things, we are rolling over \$14,567.03 from the 2020-2021 session. I did not allot any money to appropriations, so we spent \$146 on appropriates last year, so we debated if there is another way to help students. The budget is \$4,400.00.
 - ii)** E. Smith: You should probably explain what appropriations
 - iii)** Wren: The appropriations committee is unaffiliated with the fee-based organizations and the budget comes from student fees.
 - iv)** Bates: Appropriations came about because student sports organizations ran out of FAC money, so they went to Student Government and the body at the time created appropriations. We've helped Namaste Nepal and we've funded different conferences.
 - v)** O. Smith: Is there a typical amount that is in the reserve?
 - vi)** Wren: We have a little extra right now, but it can fluctuate.
 - vii)** Bates: Any money not spent by you will rollover, and you will approve a Fall and Spring budget.

- viii)** Chebolu: If there is a blank in the budget, that means that we're not doing it?
- ix)** Wren: That is correct. They have decided at this time that we are funding an Alumni Conference.
- x)** Sprehe: Do we have to give the Sustainability Office money?
- xi)** Kershaw: We usually help them, but we don't usually buy things for them.
- xii)** Bates: You are collaborative partners.
- xiii)** Montúfar: In regards to appropriations, the context in which it was created is not how we're using it now. I think that we need to reevaluate how we're allotting these funds if we even have it.
- xiv)** Bates: There was a conversation of FAC taking all of it over, but there were a lot of things that didn't get worked out behind the scenes.
- xv)** Montúfar: It might be safe to allocate some money to appropriations.
- xvi)** Grandstaff: It is my personal view that we should budget for appropriations until we've decided what we're doing with it.
- xvii)** E. Smith: It's probably not a good idea to not put any money into appropriates while it's still in the rules. Jesse and I had extensive conversations about how to handle this, but it just wasn't a priority last year.
- xviii)** O. Smith: On my list of things to address, that is definitely one of them.
- xix)** Wren: There are two voting senators that need to be on the appropriations committee, so talk to me if you're interested.
- xx)** Bates: You are not able to enter into an agreement with any kind of organizations and you can always send them through me.
- xxi)** Wren: The language we should be using is actually already written and it has been approved by Laura. And our posters are still up!
- xxii)** E. Smith: Did we have any binding resolutions that require us to still put on a TedX conference?
- xxiii)** O. Smith: I don't think so, but I will double check that to be sure.

6) Announcements

- 7) Kershaw: Excomm is at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday and come get your name placards if you are a new member and did not get any last year.

Adjourned: 6:28 p.m.