

Truman State University Student Government
Ninth Session of the 2021-2022 General Body
October 10th, 2021

Convened: 5:01 p.m.

1) Preliminary Items

- a) Roll Call
- b) Approval of Previous Minutes
 - i) Approved.
- c) Changes to the Agenda
- d) Gallery Introductions & Business
 - i) Lizzie: I'm here to be sworn in today.
 - ii) Keegan: I'm here to observe the meeting.
 - iii) Alexandra: I'm just here to observe.
 - iv) Hannah: I'm also here to observe.
 - v) Robert: I'm here for an appointment.
 - vi) Bryce: I'm here to observe.
 - vii) Evan: I'm also here to be appointed.
- e) Executive Orders
 - i) [An Executive Order Establishing A Homecoming Ad Hoc Committee](#)
(Montúfar)
 - ii) Bono: Do I need to get sworn in with the Homecoming slate?
 - iii) Smith: No, you're not being appointed, you've just been ordered to be the committee chair.
 - iv) Ordered.
- f) Membership Appointment & Resignation
 - i) Minor Appointments
 - (1) Homecoming Slate: Kennedy Cooper, Esther Fox, Mike Owsley, & Warren Barge as members of the Homecoming Ad-Hoc Committee
 - (a) Montúfar: A lot of them are members of other committees and I don't have any concerns about their participation. Also, they are all already active members of the body.
 - (b) Appointed.
 - (2) Purple Friday Slate: Kennedy Cooper and Blaine Smallwood as members of the Purple Friday Committee
 - (a) Montúfar: To be frank with you, these were recommendations that were put forward to me, so I'll Santino talk about this.
 - (b) Bono: They both have done Purple Friday and they're two great people and I can't wait to work with them.
 - (c) Appointed.
 - (3) Alexis Cook as a member on the Governing Docs Review Board
 - (4) Lizzie Cremer as the Disability Rights Advocate

- (a) Montúfar: For full transparency purposes, Lizzie is my roommate so I've known her for a long time. She is a pre-med student that is interested in disability studies. She was previously on Diversity and Inclusion and is also one of the founding members of the Chronic Health organization. Lizzie has connections with SB40 and other community organizations for individuals with disabilities.
- (b) Cremer: I'm also working with the autism center to get an advisory board so they can have more advocacy.
- (c) Appointed.

(5) Evan Holway as an Associate Senator on the External Affairs Committee

- (a) Montúfar: We interviewed Evan last week and he was really excited to get involved with Student Government. He already has some connections with the Missouri Legislature.
- (b) Evan: I have connections to representatives in Jefferson City and I think External Affairs makes the most sense for me.

ii) Major Appointments

(1) Robert Myers as Graduate Senator and member on the Academic Affairs Committee

- (a) Montúfar: We interviewed Robert last week and it's exciting to have a Graduate Senator because it's been a really long time since we've had this position filled.
- (b) R. Myers: I've been here a long time, I did my undergraduate degree here, and by doing the leadership masters it just makes sense that I would want to get more involved and apply what I'm learning.
- (c) Montúfar: We don't generally think or talk about graduate policy in Academic Affairs, so I think it would be a great way to try to figure that out. If we find out that he'd be better on another committee we can definitely move him around.
- (d) Appointed.

g) Oath of Office

2) Auxiliary Reports

a) Speaker

- i)** Smith: We had our first governing documents review board meeting today and the notes are in the committee folder in the Shared Drive if you're interested in seeing what we talked about, but we mostly talked about the attendance policy and the absence policy. I plan to bring this up during ExComm, so if you'd like to have an opinion on this policy then feel free to join that meeting.

b) Faculty Advisor

c) Staff Advisor

- i)** Bates: It's fall break week, so hopefully you all are breathing easy. If you are a committee chair and you're doing purchases that aren't in Kirksville or

through a campus vendor, please try to get everything done earlier than the recommended three weeks in advance because here are significant production issues and a lag in mail delivery, so there are things outside of us that are starting to slow down.

- ii)** Bates: The incentive program is sending updates to student organizations every Friday on where their organization stands percentage-wise. Rewards are also in place for employees. 64.55% of employees are fully vaccinated.
 - (1) Shania: Are their specific places we can buy from?
 - (2) Bates: Yes, Hobby Lobby is fine, Dollar General is fine, any vendor in town is fine, but we just need to talk about what items you're going to buy to know if I could reimburse you. For example, you can't go out and buy printed materials like shirts.
- d)** Board of Governors Representative
 - i)** Smeltzer: Thank you to everyone who expressed interest in joining. You will be getting an email soon if you were selected.
- e)** FAC Representative
- f)** RHA Representative
- g)** SAB Representative
- h)** Organizational Representatives
- i)** Athletic Fee Accountability Committee
- j)** Environmental Fee Accountability Committee
- k)** Academic Affairs Committee
 - i)** Purinton: Congratulations to Rob! We're super excited to have you on the team and I will be in contact with you shortly.
- l)** Diversity and Inclusion Committee
 - i)** Cooper: Rainbow Friday went really well– it was probably the busiest Purple Friday tabling I've ever seen. National Coming Out Day is tomorrow, but the weather is a little sketchy, so we might be moving the events to Tuesday. If you have time on Tuesday, please sign up to table in case it gets rained out.
 - ii)** Cooper: On Portal, there is not an option to put your personal pronouns, so I've emailed Donna Liss about that and we're going to be meeting soon. I also want to steer away from words like "preferred name" and "preferred pronouns" and instead use "personal pronouns" or just "pronouns."
- m)** Environmental Affairs Committee
 - i)** Sprehe: Sustainability Week went really well and thank you to everyone who participated!
- n)** External Affairs Committee
 - i)** Owsley: We had our first committee meeting and it was very good. We just got a new Associate Senator today, so I'm excited to work with him. Our topics for conversation have been about voter registration. Speaking of that, I want people thinking about voter registration and also Homecoming since that's coming up soon. I'm going to spend \$20 to join Homecoming and then probably buy some apple cider with the leftover \$230 our budget has.
 - ii)** Owsley: I've also reached out to Dr. Thomas about Truman in Jefferson City, so Dan and I are hoping to meet with her soon.

- o) Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee
 - i) Grandstaff: The Partners in Prevention meeting was canceled this week.
 - ii) Grandstaff: There was a Wellness Committee meeting, and I wanted to let the body know that their main goal is to create a “One-Stop Wellness Shop”.
 - iii) Grandstaff: The bike co-op is planning to work on bike theft prevention, and they’re mostly wanting to look into U-locks. DPS is also looking into security cameras at the request of President Thomas.
 - iv) I was told that there was “only one bike theft reported in the last two weeks”, but I know this number is untrue. This means that we probably need to promote how to use the reporting system.
 - v) Grandstaff: I talked to Ryan Nely about a lot of the stuff that Kennedy mentioned in her report so I’ve handed it off to her to continue working on.
 - vi) Grandstaff: Our meetings are at 8:00 p.m. on Mondays in the office.
 - vii) Rascher: Is there a way to report bike vandalism as well?
 - (1) Bates: Yes, you can use the same link and you should be reporting it. Also, make sure that your bike is registered.
 - viii) Smith: Any committees that are meeting somewhere other than the office, then please let me know.
- p) Student Affairs Committee
 - i) Barge: Student Affairs will be spending \$99 of their Oktoberfest budget to buy themed cookies. I’ve talked with SAB about this to make sure we aren’t providing the same thing.
 - ii) Barge: I talked with my committee this week, and we’re looking at holding the President’s Roundtable event on Thursday, November 11th. That date is not set in stone, but the general idea of having it during early November is.
 - iii) Barge: We’re still thinking about what we want the President’s Roundtable to look like, and we need to talk about a location. I want to meet with the executive board and past presidents to ask what it looked like for them.
- q) Purple Friday Committee
 - i) Bono: I want to acknowledge Kennedy for her work on Rainbow Friday because it was very successful.
 - ii) Bono: Grace has talked to me about a trunk-or-treat that Mike and Grace and I will be working on, so if you’re interested then let me know.
- r) Homecoming Ad Hoc Committee
 - i) Montúfar: I mostly roped Santino into doing this because it’s a collective effort. We’ll be meeting this week to sort things out and we’ll keep you all updated.
- s) Parking Appeals Committee
- t) Legislative Director
 - i) King: As Mike mentioned, we’re currently working on scheduling a meeting with Dr. Thomas. I mentioned this in ExComm, but we’re not in regular sessions, we’re in extraordinary sessions, so that’s why I’m not doing a lot right now.
- u) IT Director

- i) Myers: If you would like your name on the website to be changed, just let me know and I'll make sure that that's sorted out. I hope to have the pictures up soon, probably during break when I have free time.

v) PR Director

- i) Crawford: I posted about Rainbow Friday and I'll also be posting about National Coming Out Day Tomorrow.

3) Executive Board Reports

a) Secretary

- i) Reynolds: Thank you all for working with me as we got the office hours schedule finalized! I sent that final version to Owen last week, but you always have the option to switch it up so just reach out to me if you want to do that.
- ii) Reynolds: Office hours are optional this week since Thursday and Friday are part of the term break. Feel free to still visit and check in on the sign-in sheet, but I won't be tracking attendance for this week.

b) Treasurer

- i) Wren: If you want to spend any money for the rest of the semester, please touch base with me soon so we can get ahead.

c) Vice President

- i) Kershaw: There will not be an ExComm meeting this week and we likely will not be having Gen. Body, but I'll let Owen send out the final word on that. To make up for it, I'll ask that the committee chairs send a two to three bullet update about your work in Slack by Wednesday.
- ii) Kershaw: This break would be a good time to draft legislation. Start talking to other senators, committee chairs, and the Eboard about how to write productive legislation!
- iii) Kershaw: Talk to me after the meeting if you need to be added to the Slack or the Shared Drive.
- iv) Kershaw: Also talk to me after the meeting if you want to join the co-rec soccer team! We need more girls.
- v) Kershaw: Lastly, I plan to get working on our apparel soon so if you have any ideas, let me know! We usually get a t-shirt and some kind of sweatshirt or quarter zip.

d) President

- i) Montúfar: We met with President Thomas last week about university-community relations, visiting professor programs, and we learned about how state funding will work in the Spring semester.
- ii) Montúfar: We also met with Dr. Lange to talk about her work. We still need a few volunteers to help with the culinary council, so email Dr. Lange if you're interested!
- iii) Montúfar: We will be spending no more than \$99 for Homecoming kick-off and Parade supplies. This will all come from the executive budget.
- iv) Montúfar: We need to start filling the following positions: one OAF Student Government representative with three students at large, two Student Government representatives to AFAC and one student at large, and two

Student Government representatives to ESFAC, along with three students at large. I'll be overseeing AFAC, Ethan is recruiting for ESFAC, and Owen is helping with OAF.

- v) Montúfar: We are going to start looking more seriously at planning our Alumni conference, so please shoot me a message on Slack if you're interested in chairing or helping out with that committee later. It would likely be hosted in February.

4) Old Business

- a)

5) New Business

- a) [A Resolution Opposing a COVID-19 Vaccination Mandate and Acknowledging the Right to Make Personal Health Decisions](#) (Bishop)
- b) Bishop: It is my opinion that the Student Government rushed into supporting a vaccination mandate on campus. I believe we should withdraw our support from the American Association of University Professors and acknowledge the student body's right to make personal health decisions.
- c) Myers: Could you go over the process of reading resolutions?
- d) Smith: Resolutions are generally a two-week process– during the first read, there is a lot of discussion and the resolution is edited. Then, the next week, it can be brought to a vote after a second reading.
- e) Wuennenberg: How did you calculate your number is bullet point five?
 - i) Bishop: So I looked at the percentages of hospitalizations in Adair County and went through each corresponding age group. I'm thinking about adding some sort of graphic or diagram to make it more clear.
- f) Cooper: Do you plan on adjusting the resolution for the second reading for the response bias of the survey that the University sent out?
 - i) Bishop: Yes, I'm open to any sort of discussion about this. Truman State University did not publicly extrapolate the results of that survey and I think that they should have done that, considering only fifty-some percent of people responded.
- g) Woods: I have a quick question about some of the sources you cited. Could you explain to me how higher ed would be a good example of that for your evidence.
 - i) Bishop: I did not look too far into that source, but it seemed to be a news document talking about students at risk of deregistration of students in New York as a cause of vaccination mandates.
- h) Smith: I wanted to mention that members of our gallery are perfectly welcome to contribute to this discussion.
- i) Bryce: Is there a way that we can see the resolution and follow along?
 - i) Smith: There is a tab on our website for meetings and you will find our agenda there. If you scroll to the bottom of the agenda, you will find the link to the resolution.
- j) Wuennenberg: I'm really not that educated on this issue, but at the moment my inclinations are to support this resolution. However, I would recommend a few changes before I can fully support it. I would echo what Tori said about the sources

and I would recommend that you use different and original sources. I would also agree with Kennedy's point about survey bias on campus. I'll bet you that the majority of unvaccinated students would not fill out the survey in the first place. To my knowledge, Truman *does* require vaccinations for standard things, so I would appreciate it if you could address that before I consider supporting.

- i) Bishop: Yes I will absolutely work with the first two points. As far as the other required vaccinations, I believe that the data suggests that COVID-19 is not as serious of an illness as the illnesses that required vaccinations prevent.
 - ii) Bates: MMR and meningitis are required.
- k) Woods: Vaccines are really important. I have a lot of chronic illnesses and I do not think we are in a position to acknowledge that vaccinations are not just a personal health decision. When you're going through and acknowledging specific points, I think it's important to look at the bigger picture because pandemic statistics are very difficult to read. Specific numbers and specific sources need to be held in the back of your mind. I appreciate your concern for the wellbeing of the student body.
- l) Montúfar: I think that most of the concerns about this resolution center around a lack of communication about this resolution. As far as the extrapolation of the COVID-19 vaccine survey, there is a committee working on that and it's still happening and data is still being gathered on that.
- m) Montúfar: The University is really interested in pushing vaccination numbers, but they are not interested in disenrolling students because of their vaccination status.
- n) Montúfar: My last comment would be that you should be working with the Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee.
- o) Bishop: Bringing a resolution that directly opposes the resolution that Health, Wellness, and Safety put out a few weeks ago was not on the top of my list, but I understand how it would be beneficial to communicate with them before bringing a resolution to the entire body.
- p) Bono: I would like to talk about the last point. Health, Wellness, and Safety can advocate for the general welfare of students.
- q) Rowley: Through a basic Google search, you can find that a majority of college students support a vaccination mandate against COVID-19, so it seems as if supporting a vaccination mandate would be in the best interest of our community.
- r) Wuennenberg: I would still consider vaccination status to be a personal choice, but I also agree with Tori in that there is a community aspect to it and I think there should be discussion about how much that should be considered.
- s) Bishop: The COVID-19 vaccination cannot 100% prevent transmission. There is not enough substantial evidence to suggest this.
- t) Barge: If Truman State University does have a vaccination mandate, what would be the consequences of not getting it?
 - i) Bates: We have not discussed a vaccination mandate, so there are no repercussions being discussed.
- u) Woods: It's true that COVID-19 vaccination cannot 100% prevent transmission. However, the goal has always been herd immunity; we know that the more people who have the vaccination, the less cases we will see.

- v) Rascher: My overarching point I'd like to make about the resolution is that I don't have as many concerns about what I see in the resolution, but I have concerns about what I don't see; what is missing.
- w) Wuennenberg: Regarding your overall comments about vaccine efficacy, there still needs to be a discussion about how this affects others in our community. Also, I don't think that because a majority of students support something means we should automatically support it. We are representing the student body and we need to be considering every perspective, including those who are not in the majority. I still think we need to be considering these motions even if the majority of the student body support them.
- x) Kershaw: If you have any further comments, don't just leave them on the document during the meeting. This is the time to physically talk about.

6) Announcements

- a) Bates: If you are looking for a job, there are positions opening up at the Rec and in U&I.
- b) Rowley: If you have any spooky decorations to decorate the trunk-or-treat, please let me know if you'd be willing to share them.
- c) Woods: My Chronic Health organization is looking for members and officers. We have meetings every other Thursday!

Adjourned: 6:26 p.m.