

**Truman State University Student Government  
Tenth Session of the 2021-2022 General Body  
October 24th, 2021**

**Convened: 5:00 p.m.**

**1) Preliminary Items**

- a) Roll Call
- b) Approval of Previous Minutes
  - i) Approved.
- c) Changes to the Agenda
  - i) Smith: Business moved before reports.
- d) Gallery Introductions & Business
  - i) Katrina: I'm here for the Associate Senator position.
  - ii) I'm Kana and I'm here to be appointed to Health and Wellness.
  - iii) Blaine: Here to observe.
  - iv) Hannah: I'm here to observe.
  - v) Alexandra: I'm also here to observe.
  - vi) Kat: I'm here to be appointed.
- e) Membership Appointment & Resignation
  - i) Minor Appointments
    - (1) Kana Kassa as an Associate Senator on the Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee
      - (a) Montúfar: Kana is a Junior biology major.
      - (b) Kassa: I was involved with the health club in my high school and I'm working towards medical school here, so I wanted to get into that field again.
      - (c) Appointed.
    - (2) Katrina Parks as an Associate Senator on the Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee
      - (a) Montúfar: Joshua and Katrina have already been in communication about her appointment to this committee. She is a sophomore Spanish and political science major.
      - (b) Parks: I thought it would be a good way to get involved at Truman and make some differences in our community.
      - (c) Appointed.
    - (3) Kat Doering as an Associate Senator on the Student Affairs Committee
      - (a) Montúfar: Kat is a freshman music education major and she has a lot of knowledge about different organizations from her high school experience.
      - (b) Doering: I enjoy being in a big group of people and making differences on campus.
      - (c) Appointed.
    - (4) AJ Jahjolli as an Associate Senator on the Student Affairs Committee

- (a) Montúfar: AJ is a senior computer science major and has a pretty wide interest in Student Government so we thought this would be a good place to start.
- (b) Jahjoli: I have a lot of friends in Student Government and they encouraged me to join in some way, so I was interested in joining Student Affairs.
- (c) Appointed.

- ii) Major Appointments

- f) Oath of Office

## 2) Old Business

- a) [A Resolution Opposing a COVID-19 Vaccination Mandate and Acknowledging the Right to Make Personal Health Decisions](#) (Bishop)

- i) Bishop: A few changes have been made: I included some information about the already-required vaccinations on campus and I also spoke about the lack of knowledge about the repercussions of a vaccine mandate, or basically what it would look like if one did not comply with the mandate. I also attempted to address the concerns about response bias. Overall, I would like to point out that most of the points here are against a point made in the resolution in support of the vaccination mandate. I believe we have no choice but to support this resolution and negate the previous resolution.
- ii) Wuennenberg: I brought up some questions last time, but I think all of them have been resolved and I can say that I do now support this resolution.
- iii) Cook: Could somebody explain the purpose of a resolution to me?
  - (1) Smith: There are two schools of thought, one is that resolutions are our way of showing what things we support, and the other is that we use them to show the faculty what we're working on or what we've done with them.
  - (2) Bishop: Our official stance, as I understand it, is that we support a vaccination mandate, and with the resolution I would like to change our official stance to *not* supporting a vaccination mandate.
  - (3) Bono: I would like to add that the Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee has the power to bring up health concerns, so I think the second to last bullet point about Student Government not having the authority or knowledge to make health decisions for the student body is untrue.
  - (4) Bishop: I think the original resolution is way too broad.
  - (5) S. Myers: I think it would be fine right now to be neutral just because there is no talk of a vaccination mandate anyway.
  - (6) R. Myers: I do trust what the school decides to do and I think they've done the best job that they could do to get us to this point, successfully.

- (7) Cook: Is there a possibility for us to rescind the resolution that we passed, resolution 121, after Truman announces their plan for a vaccine mandate? If they do?
- (a) Smith: It's not something that we've done in the past, but the way I interpreted this resolution is exactly that, we would be rescinding our support.
  - (b) Rowley: Rescinding support for a written resolution would be in the form of another resolution. If their stance changes on something, they would write a new resolution reflecting that stance.
- (8) Rowley: My personal opinion is that I am in full support of a vaccine mandate. I think writing a resolution with the main concern of fear of the unknown consequences is in bad faith because if it's ever actually done, we could address the hypothetical consequences at the time and show that we don't think they're good for our students.
- (9) Grandstaff: I would like to agree with Grace. Our passed resolution was vague on the implementation, but our body decided that we supported the thought of a vaccine mandate. This resolution does not only rescind our support, it actually opposes a vaccination mandate.
- (10) Wuennenberg: Supporting a mandate involves supporting some kind of consequences if you don't comply with the mandate.
- (11) Barge: A lot of discussion seems to be about the implementation of the potential mandate, so I think it would be beneficial to draft a resolution talking about the methods that we do and don't support as opposed to going completely against the vaccine mandate. For myself, I think that there should be some kind of enforcement policy, but I don't think it should be disenrollment. I know that that's not being discussed right now, but it's still a concern of some of the members on the body.
- (12) R. Myers: I understand that you're concerned about the consequences, but the maximum consequence of not complying with a vaccination mandate is expulsion, whereas the maximum consequence of not getting vaccinated is you, or your friends and family. I believe wholeheartedly that the administration is not going to be unreasonable.
- (13) Bates: I'm really concerned about some of the things I'm hearing; there is not a vaccine mandate in discussion at all. I just want to be cautious that people who are listening or reading this conversation understand that this is not even on the table.
- (14) Bishop: There are a variety of reasons to go the extra step and oppose the vaccine mandate. We don't know everything about the vaccine. There is a risk of myocarditis in young boys. Also, the vaccine is not 100% effective and we continue to see breakthrough

cases. Also, do we just mandate the first two doses? Do we mandate the booster as well? We just don't know enough about the efficacy of the vaccines and the side effects to support a vaccine mandate.

(15) Not passed, 2-18-0.

### 3) New Business

#### a) [A Resolution Amending the Absence Policy in the Governing Documents of Student Government](#) (O. Smith)

- i) Smith: The Governing Documents Review Board has been very busy the past couple weeks and I wanted to bring this to the body to first read it. If you all have a bunch of changes, we can table it for next week. There is a little bit of background about why this came up, but the real meat of this resolution is in the appendix. I'm going to give a brief description of what has changed. To recap, you get five absences, only one of which can be unexcused. What we have done is separate excused and unexcused absences into two separate categories, and then we created three types of excused absences. We also realized that it seemed to not be working that everyone was under the exact same number of absences because some people have more commitments than others, so we have proposed that the number of allowed absences is equal to the number of weekly commitments.
- ii) S. Myers: So if people have missed multiple meetings, will this go into effect to cover those meetings?
  - (1) Smith: We're going to continue using the current policy this semester and then next semester we would begin with the new policy.
- iii) Kershaw: Going back to section two, clause two, I'm still wondering if there needs to be some sort of number put down here because I'm not sure about the wording. If there's no number, it's very open to interpretation or abuse.
  - (1) Bates: We had a committee chair who was going to miss six weeks of meetings and was surprised at the question from leadership of "are you equipped to handle this role?"
- iv) Smith: In section four, clauses three and five, it says that you must attend your committee meetings and that committee members are in charge of attendance, and then in section three, clause one says that failure to attend will result in an absence on the record.
- v) Grandstaff: My opinion is that if you set a specific number then it takes away from clause one, the unlimited number, so I think that would be something to consider before the second reading. "As determined by" could be added?
  - (1) Kershaw: I don't trust people in power so I'm not a fan of that.
- vi) Smith: I want to be an inclusive body and make an attendance policy that reflects that. I would also be able to put a cap on the number, say three or four times more, which would keep the scale in check. I am totally up for discussions on this and I do acknowledge that we need to be cautious of how much discretion we give to the people in power.

- vii)** Bono: The Secretary and the Vice President can't just tell a person to resign; it has to be brought up in the General Body meeting. Maybe it could be brought to ExComm, but that could be daunting.
- viii)** Carey: What if we did some kind of percentage as the cap?
- ix)** Smith: I want to bring us back to the fact that whatever policy we decide on, we need to make sure we balance something that is fair to the Body and something that is fair to the Secretary. It would be a lot to keep track of. To the point about making up excuses, I would hope that the point in section one, clause one, point A would deter that. While it does create a process for the Secretary to excuse this, I hope that the Secretary would understand that it doesn't fall under this point.
- x)** Montúfar: I am comfortable with the language here it doesn't feel like it's making anything worse in that sense, I think it just formalizes what is already happening.
- xi)** Carey: What if we were to have a point that talks about the percentages, but it's still scaled to different positions. So a minimum could be 10% (you cannot miss more than 10% of your meetings) for an individual in a higher position, but for an Associate Senator it could be a higher percentage of allowed absences.

**b) [Land Acknowledgement Framing & Office Printer Money Motion](#) (Montúfar)**

- i)** Montúfar: The first part of this is a Land Acknowledgement framing which relates to a resolution that we passed in 2020. A second part of that project was using that language to commission an indigenous artist, so we're wanting to use the \$380 dollars to get those art pieces up in the Student Union. The second part is relatively straightforward, our printer is broken and the amount is the quote we got from ITS.
- ii)** Wuennenberg: Is the artist we commissioned a member of a tribe in Adair County?  
(1) Montúfar: Yes.
- iii)** Bates: The art was commissioned last year, so that part is already taken care of.
- iv)** R. Myers: How much did we spend on the commission last year?  
(1) Bates: I think \$3,000.  
(2) Montúfar: I think it was less, I think the quote was \$500-\$1,000.  
(3) Bates: It was \$800.
- v)** Rowley: I put the paintings in the Slack.
- vi)** R. Myers: Seeing them now, I think it would be silly to not frame them.
- vii)** Passed.

**4) Auxiliary Reports**

- a) Speaker**
  - i)** No report.
- b) Faculty Advisor**
- c) Staff Advisor**
- d) Board of Governors Representative**
- 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) No report.
- l) Diversity and Inclusion Committee
  - i) Cooper:
    - (1) National Coming Out Day happened– thank you to everyone who volunteered!
    - (2) I met with Donna Liss from ITS and raised some concerns about pronouns and stuff like that. Basically, the Diversity Committee is going to come up with a list of pronouns (this is because ITS thinks that that would be the easiest way to have the option to change your pronouns on Portal). We are also working on revising the Preferred First Name and Gender Pronoun Policy (we will be meeting with Ryan Nely for this).
    - (3) After those two things happen, it should be pretty easy to get it live on Portal and then on professors' class lists.
    - (4) Expect to see a resolution next week for the Resource Center that we've been working on. The petition officially starts on Monday, and Shania made a graphic for us. I will share that and the link in Slack, so please share that with people. I will be meeting with Dr. Saint Rice at some point about the Center.
- m) Environmental Affairs Committee
  - i) Sprehe:
    - (1) The PSAC meeting happened last Tuesday, the 19th, and we talked about STARS (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating Systems) and how to get students involved in the data tracking. We also talked about Sustainability 2.0 and the steps we need to take to be carbon neutral by 2030. Full disclosure, I had to leave early because of class, but if anyone is interested in the minutes I will put the link to them in Slack once they are approved.
    - (2) Blaine is the Student Government representative on the ENVS minor committee.
    - (3) We are working with the Residence Life Coordinator, Dan Waxman, to begin a permanent partnership with Residence Life. Krishna is set to be our first representative as soon as we get the go ahead from Zac Burden!
    - (4) Lastly, we are looking into having a documentary showing before the semester ends of *Changing Ice*, which is about "James Balog and his team on the Extreme Ice Survey assembling a multi-year chronicle of the planet's rapidly melting glaciers." More details to

come after I get a response back from the people in charge of the rights to the movie!

- n) External Affairs Committee
  - i) Owsley:
    - (1) No report other than that I am meeting with Sue Thomas on Tuesday with Dan.
- o) Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee
  - i) Woods:
    - (1) Happy to start working with new members! They have started their specific projects and me and Shania meet with Andrew on Tuesday about UCS. If anyone wants us to mention specifics, send me and/or Joshua a message to include in our discussion plan.
  - ii) Grandstaff:
    - (1) I met with the Wellness Committee and Health, Wellness, and Safety will be doing some research to help them out. If you're reading this, please send me a message of your favorite flower.
- p) Student Affairs Committee
- q) Purple Friday Committee
- r) Parking Appeals Committee
  - i) Meyer:
    - (1) There were no appeals last week so please remind people to appeal any parking ticket that they get.
- s) Homecoming Ad-Hoc Committee
- t) Legislative Director
  - i) King:
    - (1) Mike and I are meeting with President Thomas on Tuesday to go over Truman's lobbying efforts.
- u) IT Director
  - i) No report.
- v) PR Director
- 5) **Executive Board Reports**
  - a) Secretary
    - i) Reynolds:
      - (1) Please remember to use my Google Form to alert me of an upcoming absence.
      - (2) Committee chairs, remember to update your committee attendance!
  - b) Treasurer
    - i) Wren:
      - (1) We had six applications for Appropriations! Stay tuned for next week's meeting to approve or deny these decisions.
  - c) Vice President
  - d) President
- 6) **Announcements**

**Adjourned: 6:44 p.m.**