

Truman State University Student Government
Twelfth Session of the 2021-2022 Executive Committee
December 1, 2021

Convened: 8:02 p.m.

1) Preliminary Items

a) Roll call

2) Auxiliary Reports

a) Speaker of the Student Senate

i) O. Smith:

ii) On Sunday I'm gonna bring the Resolution about Senior Senators, which I've talked with Laura about. I'm proud of Appropriations and the absence policy. Also, we're thinking about putting Purple Friday back as a sub-committee under Student Affairs.

iii) Something I've been thinking about recently is that I would like to number our resolutions differently, like 2022.1.001.

iv) Montúfar: What do they look like right now?

(1) O. Smith: 122.001. It doesn't make much sense this way and it has changed in the past, so I think I will implement the new format in the spring.

b) Academic Affairs Committee Chair

i) Purinton:

(1) The projects that I am proud of... I am proud of Owen Hamill for stepping up and continuing Santino's legacy with the Symposium. I am also proud of our committee-wide effort on the financial hardship form. I really hope that that gets implemented further down the line.

(2) Projects that I want to work on: Yesterday, Shania reminded me that I was slacking on one of my goals, so I want to take a look at the intercultural perspective requirements that Truman has. Shania has some fantastic ideas about this, so I am hoping to use those as inspiration.

(3) Over break I will be thinking about changing the Truman culture. What I mean by this is creating a campus climate that does not worry so much about grades and/or perfection... Dr. Gooch and I had an interesting conversation about this at the beginning of the semester, so I want to go back to that.

(4) As far as collaboration goes, I want to work with Student Affairs and Purple Friday, especially for Academic Accolades.

(5) In my meeting with Jonathan Vieker, we talked about the HLC advising initiative that they hope to do a test run for during the Fall 2023 semester.

c) Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair

i) Cooper:

(1) The two projects I am proud of are the Resource Center and also just getting on similar pages with Dr. Saint Rice so that we can get stuff done together.

(2) Next semester, I want to work on size inclusivity in the stuff that Truman hands out and I'm looking forward to having a really cool Diversity Week.

(3) For my collaboration, I want to work with Health, Wellness, and Safety to show a film.

ii) O. Smith: When is Diversity Week?

(1) Cooper: March 28th-April 2st

d) Environmental Affairs Committee Chair

i) Sprehe:

(1) I'm proud of our Pipeline 3 petitions and the one that we're doing right now, Campus Cups. I'm really excited to see the turnout there. Two things I'll be thinking about over break are our showing of *The True Cost* and Earth Week. And then I'm interested in collaborating with External Affairs!

(2) Kershaw: When is Earth Week?

(a) Sprehe: I'll get back to you on that.

e) External Affairs Committee Chair

i) Owsley: I'm proud of Voter Registration Friday and Halloween; partaking in the trunk or treat with the StuGov car was really fun. It was also fun to surprise Dr. Edwards. I want to continue working on Voter Registration Friday, and I want to work on preparing for Truman at the Capitol. I've also talked a bit with Joshua and Tori about marijuana on campus.

f) Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee Co-chairs

i) Grandstaff:

(1) Tori cannot be here tonight, but she sends her love and hopes that everyone is doing okay.

(2) The two projects that Tori and I are most proud of are one, The Resolution Supporting a Covid Vaccine Mandate and two, establishing a positive line of communication with UCS, Andrew Fajkus, and Dr. Palmer.

(3) Two projects that we look forward to are the establishment of NAMI on our campus and also putting on a Wellness Week during the spring semester.

(4) Lastly, we are interested in collaborating with Diversity and Inclusion to show a film/documentary. We are also planning on collaborating with External Affairs for a “Let’s be blunt” event/seminar.

g) Purple Friday Committee Chair

h) Student Affairs Committee Representative:

i) Bishop: Two things that Warren is proud of are the cookies and the Roundtable, and he’s looking forward to doing events with other organizations. He wants to do more with Purple Friday.

i) Legislative Director

i) King: I’m very proud of working with President Thomas and working with Mike, but I’m also proud of getting the bill tracker up and fixed. Over break I’ll be thinking about legislation.

j) IT Director

3) Executive Reports

a) Treasurer

i) Wren: I think the number one project I’m proud of is Appropriations, and just so everyone is aware that the rubric is approved, and going into the spring I think we’ll be working a lot with compliance issues. I’m also really proud of the labyrinth, even though it looks awful. I think working on sprucing up the labyrinth in the spring will be good.

b) Secretary

i) Reynolds:

(1) I’m proud of keeping everything organized because it’s a lot more work than I anticipated.

c) President and Vice President

i) Montúfar:

(1) For any events, always submit them to the university calendar as soon as possible so that they can get that up. There are lots of ways to advertise on campus, so just start thinking about that now.

(2) For break I’ll mostly be working on apparel.

(3) Your end of year reports aren’t due until the end of the year, so semester is a good time to start updating those. I would check the website for templates. Always feel free to slack me!

ii) Kershaw:

- (1) I met with President Thomas and the one thing we found out is that there will be masks for the first couple weeks, and then they will be re-evaluated.
 - (2) I will remind you to sign up to meet with me and Shania.
 - (a) Montúfar: Don't sign up after the 15th because I'll be out for my surgery.
 - (3) Also, I need all the committee chairs to send a few sentences for the all-school email about what they've done.
 - (4) Lastly, make sure if you've got dates for stuff in the spring that you write it down in the calendar in the office.
 - (5) Purinton: I wanted to mention something about scholarship hours. Apparently the supervisors did not know that it was 55 hours instead of 58, so I just wanted to let you guys know that they might need to send something out or something.
 - (6) Kershaw: It's going to go down even more next semester, maybe one or two hours.
 - (7) Montúfar: It's always been an issue. I'm not sure if Financial Aid adjusts that, but whoever does that doesn't update supervisors very often.
 - (8) O. Smith: That was exactly the experience I had, and even my supervisor who hired me in May of last year was not aware of this change. I think the gap needs to be filled there.
 - (9) Purinton: Just another part of that, they were also very curious to know the reason why. I've explained about the minimum wage, but there is still information being missed there.
 - (10) Montúfar: It is in fact Financial Aid.
- iii) Kershaw: The reason why it decreases is that students get more money, but it's less hours that they can work because the departments get the same amount.

4) Discussion Items:

- a) NAMI: National Alliance on Mental Illness
 - i) Grandstaff: We want to lay out what NAMI is and it's kind of a peer support group. We weren't sure if it was always under Health, Wellness, and Safety, or if it was like the brainchild of us and it would grow outside of us.
 - ii) Fox: So basically NAMI by itself provides a lot of resources for mental health issues. Dr. Berke told me that in order for a peer group to run it, they would have to do some kind of training that wouldn't take very long. Basically, they have a lot of good resources, such as resources about mental health issues with PTSD and also just for dealing with ADHD as a student.

- iii) Grandstaff: There are peer support groups on campus, but the main difference is that NAMI provides actual professional resources to deal with mental health, besides just peer support. There was a survey that the wellness committee did, and a surprising number of people put a resource center outside of UCS. Last year on the body there was some hesitation to bring an outside organization in, but they partnered with JED and we've already brought JED in. Does anyone have thoughts on the Student Government's role on this?
- iv) O. Smith: I think that this is a good idea. My worry is that if it's an outside organization, who would head that and how are they different from the current programs we have on campus. It would just be a matter of ensuring if that would be doable for the committee. If there's an adequate student interest, it would be important that future Chairs know.
 - (1) Grandstaff: I'm going to first provide a little bit of a clarification. NAMI would be purely student led, but the resources would come from outside of the University. In terms of Chairs, I wanted to see how the chairs feel about that and the executive numbers.
 - (a) Montúfar: I think that the best role for Student Government is more of an advising or consulting capacity. I wouldn't try to create too many structural ties at the beginning. We do a lot of that and it's unclear if the next Chair will be able to continue. I think it's worth your energy to get this off the ground, and finding one or two students to get them through the chartering process. I would also suggest talking with other organizations first, like Positive Peers, because they might already be wanting to collaborate with NAMI.
 - (b) Grandstaff: That's kind of how I envisioned it. Esther is really passionate about getting it set up, I think Esther would continue the project even if we didn't think that StuGov would be super involved. I think reaching out is a good idea, but I didn't want to overstep any boundaries.
 - (c) Montúfar: I think that's why reaching out is important, and as long as everyone is on the same page I don't see an issue with creating more support resources on campus.
 - (d) Grandstaff: Thank you, Shania.
- v) Kershaw: I think you've covered a lot of things I've been thinking about. Keeping it going is always the biggest concern, so chartering it might be the best course of action so that we will always have officers popping up.
- vi) Sprehe: What's the timeline for this?

- (1) Grandstaff: Esther mentioned before that it's not too long of a setup period, but it's something that we want to get set up in the Spring Semester.
- (2) Fox: I talked to Dr. Berke about it and she is willing to help with a lot of the organization of it. She said that she already reached out to one of the people on the executive board. There is a possibility of me meeting with them and also Dr. Berke, and I want to do that after reaching out to positive peers. The difference here is that we have the training with NAMI. I don't think it will take a long time and I think it's feasible for the next semester.
- (3) Sprehe: I have a couple of ideas for that. I'm a health science major and we're all geared more towards mental health, so I think reaching out to those exercise science and health science majors would be a good source of members.
- (4) Montúfar: Laura is going to be a really good person to talk to. You might not want to go to her first, but she'll be a great resource once you've gathered more information.

Adjourned: 8:52 p.m.