

**Truman State University Student Government
Fifteenth Session of the 2021-2022 General Body
December 5th, 2021**

Convened: 5:00 p.m.

1) Preliminary Items

- a) Roll Call
- b) Gallery Business
- c) Changes to the Agenda
- d) Approval of Previous Minutes
 - i) Approved.
- e) Membership Appointment & Resignation
 - i) Resignation
 - ii) Minor Appointments
 - (1) Véla Lightle as a Student Government Representative on ESFAC (Kershaw)
 - (a) Kershaw: Véla is currently on Environmental Affairs and I think this position will be a great learning experience for her.
 - (b) Lightle: I really want to understand what the environmental impact on campus is, because we host a lot of students. I want to make things more carbon neutral and just be more involved in environmental things on campus.
 - (2) Appointed.
 - iii) Major Appointments
- f) Oath of Office

2) Executive Reports

- a) Legislative Director
 - i) No report.
- b) IT Director
 - i) S. Myers: I will have the website updated by the end of tonight.
- c) PR Director
 - i) Crawford: Look forward to a post about the UCS information from Health, Wellness, and Safety.
- d) Secretary
 - i) Reynolds: Last week of office hours this week! Also, Chairs, please fill in your committee attendance by the end of this week... Your office hours are a great time to do that real quick.
- e) Treasurer
 - i) Wren: I don't think we'll be spending any more money for the rest of the semester, and I'll be sending an email to the Chairs soon for our meeting about the budget for next semester. In Appropriations we're going to be reworking the rubric.
 - ii) O. Smith: Are you planning to allocate more money for the spring semester for Appropriations?

(1) Wren: We're probably going to be reworking the budget and also allocating closer to what we spent this semester, which is closer to \$2,500, or \$5,000 for the whole academic year.

f) Vice President

i) Kershaw: I met with President Thomas this week. Some updates are that cameras are likely going to be installed at the entrance to Residence Halls over the summer of 2022. Also, the mask mandate will stay in effect during the beginning of next semester until it is reassessed.

(1) Bates: The mask mandate will be re-evaluated on the 28th of January.

g) President

i) Montúfar: There is not a lot of administrative work left, but we're still figuring out the frames and the shirts. If you're interested in meeting with us, now is a good time to do it. Another reminder for you is that the End of Year reports will come up quickly and it's a good idea to start working on them now so they don't overwhelm you at the end of the spring semester.

3) Committee Reports

a) Athletic Fee Accountability Committee

b) Environmental Fee Accountability Committee

c) Purple Friday Committee

i) Bono: We have Registration Friday this Friday in the SUB.

ii) O. Smith: Are you doing anything to promote this?

(1) Bono: Maybe. If I have enough time to devote to it I will.

d) Parking Appeals Committee

e) Academic Affairs Committee

i) No report.

f) Diversity and Inclusion Committee

i) Cooper: I have a money motion for later. For next semester, my committee is focused on Black History Month and also Diversity Week. Also, on the petition for the Resource Center, there was a box where people could offer suggestions, so Laura and I have been talking about those submissions.

g) Environmental Affairs Committee

i) Sprehe: Campus Cups is doing great so far! We have about 250 signed up to receive free menstrual cups. The link is live until Friday, so please continue sharing that.

h) External Affairs Committee

i) Owsley: Registration Friday is this Friday.

i) Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee

i) Woods: I am home again with more medical stuff, so sorry I am not there, but still feel free to reach out to me or Joshua with any questions or concerns. Make sure you're practicing mindfulness starting this week, start finding something relaxing to do in preparation for finals week.

ii) Grandstaff: We have a second reading of our resolution coming up, and we sent out some emails to student organizations about integrating NAMI into our campus.

iii) Sexual Assault Prevention Designee

(1) Fox: I met with Ryan Nely last week and we talked about the resolution. I also got his opinion on some event planning and I will be meeting with him again this week to finalize some details.

j) Student Affairs Committee

i) Barge: We have the discussion item on the President's Roundtable today, but in our committee we've talked about the best way to hold his event in the future. We also have been talking about Student Appreciation Week and we're hoping to have it between the 4th of April and the 22nd. We want to narrow that down once we see what other events will be going on during that time. We also want to make sure that all our emails are correct for reaching out for sponsorships.

ii) Bates: We used to have an organizational liaison. Basically, people on your committee took a category and they would email those leaders once a month. For example, Sutton would have done the academic professional groups.

(1) Barge: I think that those are great points. A lot of problems we have center around them not reciprocating with us. We used to go to RHA meetings, but we didn't really gain anything from that. We want to create more events that increase our access to organizations and also their access to each other. There seems to be a desire to get to know each other.

iii) Woods: I know we've had really long discussions on the President's Roundtable in the past, so do you have any specific topics for us to discuss?

(1) Barge: Yes, I plan on bringing some key points, maybe three or four. I don't think it needs to be a very long conversation because I want to stay on target.

(a) Woods: Thank you!

iv) O. Smith: It's important to make sure that the emails are correct for organizational leaders because of elections right now. There used to be a program called Shining Star Leaders I believe, where Student Affairs would recognize certain organizations.

v) Bates: During Ryan's presidency, they used to recognize an individual and a collective.

vi) Grandstaff: You mentioned a future Roundtable event that was different, where do you want to go with that?

(1) Warren: I want to address that in the discussion so we'll save it for then.

4) Auxiliary Reports**a) Speaker**

i) O. Smith: We have a resolution for Gov. Docs that we will see later. Also, I'm going through our passed resolutions and making a spreadsheet of data based on that. I think that will be a good resource for people if they are wondering what has been done before and if we are following through on what we've done in the past.

b) Faculty Advisor

c) Staff Advisor

- i)** Bates: Staff wages and faculty wages were approved. Staff are getting a \$0.85 raise. Staff members were present at the meeting and there were some demonstrators outside which you might see in the media.
- ii)** Bates: Get your stuff to Jesse if you are doing something in January. Also, January 13th is National Sticker Day, so that could be a good way to engage with the student body.
- iii)** O. Smith: Abby got sick and left the Zoom, so you can talk about what happened at the meeting.
- iv)** Bates: Two students addressed the Board yesterday. Two were from communications. One of them did a speech about raising the minimum wage, which is slated to go up to \$10.10/hour in January 2022. The other talking point was about a vaccine mandate. They approved a few construction projects, one being the replacement of the chiller in OP. Faculty salaries will be adjusted as well come January, and you can see more information online. It was Academic Affairs' turn to present, so they gave an update on the symposium. Vayu brought three students to talk about that. The staff that were demonstrating did not get on the Board agenda because you have to request that time ahead of time. The next Board meeting will be in February, which is commonly the Student Government report. They also discussed sabbaticals.

d) Board of Governors Representative

e) Organizational Representatives

- i)** FAC Representative
- ii)** RHA Representative
- iii)** SAB Representative

5) Old Business

- a)** Resolution 121.007 - [A Resolution Supporting Survivors, Protests, and Action List of University of Missouri](#) (Grandstaff)
- b)** Grandstaff: All of the comments on the document have been resolved, so thank you for all of your comments last week. I went ahead and added an appendix at the end, because I think it makes sense if we're going to send it out that we have that information in there.
- c)** Fox: Thank you all for their comments!
- d)** Kershaw: There is a part that talks about providing academic support for survivors. I think you could run into some trouble because some educators might not want to grant leniency without documentation because they could be seen as partial to certain students.
 - i)** Grandstaff: It does say "for survivors", so the obvious intent is for individuals who have suffered sexual misconduct.
 - ii)** Fox: If students don't provide documentation personally, there is a way for the Title IX coordinator to reach out and anonymously provide documentation.
 - iii)** Bates: The challenge with that is how do folks know that you're a survivor?

(1) Kershaw: How do faculty need to know that they can honor it is what I'm trying to say.

(a) Fox: If they don't make a formal report, I think documentation can still be provided in some situations. I do agree that there are some issues with it, but I'm not sure if it's just a wording issue.

iv) O. Smith: The point talking about Fraternity and Student Athlete members... I understand the stigma around those specific institutions, but I would just wonder about how members of those organizations would react if sexual assault was not an issue in those organizations specifically. I was wondering if there was a way to get them more on board with it.

(1) Grandstaff: Looking at the broader context, I think it's understandable to see why we would put those there, and also it's not located under the Truman-specific section, so I wouldn't want Truman fraternities to see this and think that we were calling them out.

(2) Bates: Truman's fraternities are still a part of Nely's domain.

v) Montúfar: If there are concerns about faculty handling these situations properly, I think we could focus on training faculty more on handling stuff like this instead of improving their own personal policies.

vi) O. Smith: There is a giant space at the end of the first page, can we get rid of it?

(1) Grandstaff: Let me see.

vii) Approved.

6) Discussion Items

a) Discussion Item on President's Roundtable (Barge)

i) Barge: The President's Roundtable was really good and we got a lot of information. The first point was around vaccines; we talked about a possibility of a vast underrepresentation of vaccinated individuals on campus. We also talked about individual incentives being more effective than big group ones, such as offering a pizza party instead of just a certain amount of money. A lot of organizations were in support of a vaccination mandate on campus, especially if it ended the mask mandate. A lot of them felt that the mask mandate was annoying, especially the sports ones.

ii) Bishop: I was in a room with all of the frats and sorority heads for the vaccine mandates. They said they got upwards of 90% percent, but when they did the incentives, they struggled to get 50% to report on it.

iii) Bates: I think what Adam is getting to is that it's very difficult to get individuals to follow up on vaccination status. Some of our larger groups did it easily and quickly. I had groups of three or even one who never submitted their cards.

iv) O. Smith: Tori and I had a lot of organizations said that COVID was happening and they just had their focus on other things.

v) Kershaw: I would encourage people to think about what else we could do to encourage reporting. Some of them complained about communication with

the emails about how to do it, so there is the issue with clear communication.

- vi)** Bates: The updates went to the club advisor and then to club email, which was a decision made by the vaccine incentive team.
- vii)** Grandstaff: The general vibe that I'm getting is that there needs to be some sort of individual incentive program? I don't know that right now is the best time, but that could be something we look into for the future.
- viii)** Bates: There were almost 50 student groups that got it, and I have that information, so we could reach out to them to ask how they got their members to report.
- ix)** Barge: The second point was about how Student Government can interact with organizations more effectively. Someone came up to me at the end and was excited to say that this was a good event to get to know not only me, but also the other organizations in the room. So, I want to talk about what future roundtables can look like. One idea that we had was to have miniature roundtables... I was hoping to have different forms, like one town hall per semester or one open forum. I also heard a lot of buzz about just having a social event for organizations to get to know each other on a personal level. So, what do you all think that future roundtables should look like?
- x)** Sprehe: Last year we talked a lot about putting ourselves out there and going to different meetings, so I think it would be a good idea to choose a specific liaison from each committee that would be communicating with the organizations relating to that committee.
- xi)** O. Smith: How successful was that, Laura?
 - (1) Bates: Shania had great success in that role, so I think it depends on the structure of what expectations you all give each other. I have an idea for a meet-and-greet that we can talk about after the meeting.
 - (2) Warren: I agree with Laura, it's a great idea, but it's hard to stay consistent, so I would hope that we have more events that they can come to us.
 - (3) Montúfar: I think the reason it worked well was because we were pretty structured. I came up with a template to collect and give information, so Warren if you wanted to, you could create something like that. It's not a long-term solution, but I think it worked pretty well with my committee. As far as other suggestions, there has always been a conversation about a tea conversation, which is a more casual conversation than the roundtables. I think that's a template that has worked before.
 - (4) Grandstaff: I think the liaison is a really good idea, but I think we need to have the social aspect, or the tea time, first.
 - (5) Kershaw: I do not think the organization liaison will work because asking one specific person to attend a meeting usually just falls off after a short amount of time. Topic nights sound like a great way to move forward instead.

- (a) Grandstaff: I do think that the idea is worth trying, but I do think that bringing the organizations together is more important.
- (6) Bates: I think Morgan brought up a really good point; you can do all the outreach in the world, but people have to want to engage with you. We have to decide our intent on what level that you want organizations to be working with other organizations. Sometimes we talk about wanting to do things, but then when it's time to do them, it's difficult to execute. You could do something like coffee with the President, and sometimes Sue Thomas would come in. They tried to do it with food or snacks so that it was more incentivizing. I also agree that having specific topics creates more draw. Unfortunately we haven't done a TruVision document in a long time, and the last time it was done it was more review based and less forward thinking. I know that the counseling center provided Janna with common frustrations from students, and a lot of students are complaining about their organizations. A lot of students are struggling with organizations being too business-like. I think commitment is really hard to gauge at this point.
- (7) O. Smith: I think that having individual committees that reach out to other organizations does not work. I like the idea of having little events much more and I think that they would be effective. In my exploration of past resolutions, they used to refer back to the vision document all the time.
- (8) Barge: I think that these are all really good points. Even if the organizational liaison worked for the first goal, I don't think it would work towards the second goal of inter-organizational interaction. I do agree that we should have more of these thematic discussions and smaller roundtables. I'm hoping to do these events in-person next semester. To close off the last two points, I wanted to let you all know that a lot of organizations said that they felt a lack of university outreach and they did not feel very supported by the university during COVID. They also think that COVID-19 is the major thing restricting membership.

7) New Business

- a) [The Power to Heal Money Motion](#) (Cooper)
- i) Cooper: I move to spend \$220 on *The Power to Heal* showing and posters. I've been wanting to show this for a while. It goes through history and talks about healthcare, starting right after we ended slavery. It discusses the inequalities in healthcare. I don't know exactly when I want to put this on, but I want to show it during late February.
- ii) Bates: When you do make a decision on the date, doing a direct email to your health organizations would be really good.
- (1) O. Smith: I would second that and consider emailing it to certain department secretaries.

iii) Monied.

b) Resolution 121.009 - [A Resolution Amending Election Procedures in the Governing Documents of the Student Government](#) (O. Smith)

i) O. Smith: A while ago we had a Speaker who re-wrote a lot of the rules. The Senior Senator position used to only have one year of experience required, and then it became two, and we have not been able to fill that position since. We would like to always fill those positions and increase membership on the body, so this resolution decreases the experience from two years to one. The second thing that it does is adjust our election procedures. We want people who get more votes to be elected, so it puts everyone who is running into one race. We will look first for incoming senators, so the top four freshmen will be incoming senators, and the rest will be voting senators. It will be the same for senior senators and graduate senators. I understand if that seems confusing, so I would be happy to answer any questions.

ii) Wuennenberg: I still need a bit of clarification on how the election will work. So the special types of senators are chosen first, and then all the leftover ones will become voting senators?

(1) O. Smith: Yes. This would take away any form of declaration. If you are qualified to be a senior senator candidate and you win, then you will get that position.

iii) Kershaw: I want people to think about a couple points. One point is that it says that senior senators should only be elected in the spring, but I go back and forth on that. Also, do the instructions contained in this document make sense for other people, because Owen won't be here forever.

(1) O. Smith: I totally agree with that second point. Also, to the first point, it doesn't make sense right now to elect senior senators in the fall, because there is no summer term to gain experience. I don't think that we should be making concessions for people who go away in the spring.

iv) Cooper: This is just a suggestion for Owen. He drew a visual to show us how it all works in the meeting, so maybe we could make a nicer version of that for future bodies?

(1) O. Smith: I think that that would be very helpful. However, I don't want to get into the habit of putting illustrations in the Standing Rules.

v) Bates: This is to Ethan's point: I have seen more people want to run in the fall simply because they don't want to put as much effort into it. We have had people elected during study abroad.

vi) Grandstaff: I really liked what Kennedy said about adding visuals, and maybe we could add it to the Election's Handbook instead of the Standing Rules.

(1) O. Smith: Mmmm! What a fantastic idea.

8) Announcements

9) Bates: Please mark your calendar. Sunday next week, starting at 8:00 p.m. showing up to the Union will be 400 pancakes for Finals Scream. I do have other options as well.

- 10) Cooper: On Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. I am doing a presentation about fish in the planetarium and I would love to see you there.
- 11) Barge: The people who do the Econ podcast are hosting an event this week!
- 12) Wren: If you are interested in serving on the homecoming committee next year, the applications will open soon.

Adjourned: 6:24 p.m.