

Truman State University Student Government
Second Session of the 2023-2024 General Body
May 10th, 2023

Convened: 11:02am

1) Preliminary Items

- a) Roll Call
- b) Gallery Business
 - i) Bono: I am here hoping to be appointed as the student at large on the Vision Docs committee.
 - ii) Knabe: I am hoping to be appointed as the assistant to the Diversity and Inclusion committee.
- c) Changes to the Agenda
 - i) N/A
- d) Approval of Previous Minutes
 - i) N/A
- e) Membership Appointment & Resignation
 - i) Resignations
 - a) N/A
 - ii) Major Appointments
 - a) Alex Zelk as Secretary (O'Reilly)
 - i) O'Reilly: Alex was the Sexual Assault Prevention Designee last year, and he did a great job at coordinating with the Title IX office and planning events. He is passionate about keeping accurate minutes, and he protemped at our last meeting. Mairin and I think that he's done a good job so far, and he's already been very communicative and open to feedback. I think that he will adjust well to this position and keep us all well organized and informed.
 - b) O'Reilly: How do you feel about your time management skills?
 - c) Zelk: I have my entire life planned out on google calendar, and I am confident in my abilities to delegate time for Student Government. On top of that, I had no problem putting aside time for Student Government last year.
 - d) *Closed session begins 11:07am*
 - e) *Closed session ends 11:08am*
 - i) *Oath of Office is given, Zelk is appointed*
 - iii) Major Appointments
 - a) Alex Peterson and Sal Niemeyer as Academic Affairs Committee Co-Chairs (O'Reilly)

- i) O'Reilly: We're moving to have Alex and Sal as our Academic Affairs co-chairs this year. They were both on the committee last year. Mairin has more information on their application and why we think they're good candidates, so I defer to her.
- ii) Warner: I reached out to them, and asked if they would work well together. They have worked together in the past and played major roles in the academic accolades last year, and they did a great job.
- iii) Peterson: I had a great time last year. I got to work on creating the legal studies minor, and I'm very excited to serve on the body again.
- iv) Neymier: I got to serve very closely with the body to help with academic accolades and look forward to the future of this body.
- v) Bates: Do you feel confident working together as a co-leader?
- vi) Niemeyer: Not specifically as a co-leader, but I feel very confident in our ability to work together in general.
- vii) Manalang: What projects do you have in mind?
- viii) Peterson: I of course would like to work on academic accolades again, and expand to some more projects.
- ix) Niemeyer: I want to look at the online course list, and remove the ones that aren't being offered as I've heard that's a problem.
- x) O'Reilly: How do you plan to cooperate with each other with differences of opinion?
- xi) Peterson: I will keep an open mind and remember that my decisions are to benefit the student body and not just us.
- xii) Niemeyer: We will listen to our committee and see what the majority of them have to say.
- xiii) *Closed session begins 11:13am*
- xiv) *Closed session ends 11:14am*
- xv) *Peterson and Niemeyer are appointed by unanimous consent*
- f) Kennedy Cooper as Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair (O'Reilly)
 - i) O'Reilly: Kennedy has served on the Diversity and Inclusion Committee as a voting senator and been chair of it. During her time, she co founded the LGBTQ+ Resource Center and accomplished a lot of other goals. I've seen her as a passionate and driven member of the body, especially around diversity, since I joined, and I know that she'll do very well in this position.

- ii) Cooper: I love this committee, and also have some projects in mind. I want to finish writing the gender identity and discrimination policy, as well as plan events with the community and CDI. I would also like to host a national coming out day if it doesn't rain.
 - iii) O'Reilly: What are your time commitments next year?
 - iv) Cooper: My only time commitment outside of class is just Student Government, and I anticipate having plenty of time to work on my projects.
 - v) Owsley: Are you excited to have more free time?
 - vi) Cooper: I am very excited.
 - vii) *Closed session begins: 11:16am*
 - viii) *Closed session ends 11:17am*
 - ix) *Cooper is appointed by unanimous consent*
- g) Molly Schaedler as Environmental Affairs Committee Chair (O'Reilly)
- i) O'Reilly: Molly served on the Environmental Affairs Committee with Mairin last year, and she applied to chair the committee this year. Mairin has more information on Molly as her former committee chair, so I defer to her.
 - ii) Warmer: Molly joined in the middle of the semester, and worked on the index to help support the Student government. She worked very hard and I am excited to see what she brings to this organization.
 - iii) Schadler: I am very excited to be the chair, as I have ideas of what I'd like to do and am excited about this position. I am passionate about the environment and this will reflect in my work in this position.
 - iv) Owsley: What's your favorite idea you have right now?
Schadler: I would still like to do something regarding housing for bats, and I would like to strengthen the communication between the resources and the student body about the environmental practices on campus.
 - v) ***Brief interruption, topic is deffered from Schadler's appointment***
 - vi) Lange: Sorry to interrupt. I am Tyana Lange, VP for student engagement enrollment, and marketing. Student government falls under my responsibility and I like to put a face to a name. I like to make sure you know your voice is heard and that you have the resources you need to get what you need to get changed. I may not be at all your meetings but a very

important part of my job is to support Laura and you, and to remove obstacles for your organization to get done. My office is in the presidential suite of McClain. FYI, when you're starting a job having access to the president is important. I can have off the cuff conversations that I need to have, and I also have an office here in the SUB to interact with students. Does anyone have any questions for me?

- vii) O'Reilly: Thanks for coming! Tyana is a great recourse to have on campus. She is a large lesion and provides great support.
- viii) Lange: Anything outside of athletics is all me. If you have questions regarding things that happen outside of the classroom, that's my division.
- ix) Bates: Tayana oversees the OAF committee, and she tackles the lead on working at a higher level with that group.
- x) Lange: This group used to meet once every three years, but now we meet every year. Especially because of the turnover, I believed it was very important to meet often regarding this stuff.
- xi) Lange: My office also has snacks, coffee and water! Please visit as me and Wendy (my assistant) have a mission to feed the world. (Wendy) she is a retired English teacher and is passionate about her job and a fantastic assistant.
- xii) Stout: If there are no more questions than thank you for coming!
- xiii) Lange: I apologize for being late, and thanks again for having me!
- xiv) *Topic resumes to Schadlers appointment***
 - xv) *Closed session begins: 11:25am*
 - xvi) *Closed session ends 11:26am*
 - xvii) *Schadler appointed by unanimous consent*
- h) Marcia Humphreys as Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee Chair (O'Reilly)
 - i) O'Reilly: Marcia came in as the Health, Wellness and Safety Chair last semester, and even though she only had one semester to get stuff done, she accomplished so much! She's very dedicated and fulfills any role that she serves in well. When she first became a committee chair, she reached out to me for help figuring out how to run things, which immediately showed me that she wanted to do her job well.

Marcia has the relevant experience and the drive to do this job well.

Humphreys: I am a business and Psychology double major, and I joined in the middle of the semester and became the chair. I had no idea what I was signing up for and felt like I was blindfolded, dizzy and in the jungle. Colleen and this organization helped me out and I am very grateful for this organization.

Cooper: What are some project ideas you have in mind?

Humphreys: I would like to continue working on making online scheduling at the health center possible. I have sent a lot of surveys about this.

Owsley: Would you be interested in doing this survey next semester potentially during Truman week?

Humphreys: Yes!

Closed session begins: 11:29am

Closed session ends: 11:30am

Humphreys is appointed by unanimous consent

- i) Lucas Manalang as Student Affairs Committee Chair (O'Reilly)
 - i) O'Reilly: Lucas was a member of Student Affairs last year with me, and he was my most valuable committee member. He decided to begin researching ADA compliance around the university and wrote an entire resolution on it. Any task that I gave him, he did well. He recruited an associate senator after Layne left at the end of fall semester. Lucas is a driven individual who is on top of his stuff and passionate about Student Government, and I know that he has the experience to lead this committee in a wonderful way.
- j) Manalang: As a student at TSU, I would love to represent the students as a student affairs committee chair. I would like to get more associate members on my committee to get more input from the students. A future project is to get an RHA member on my committee to get that connection and to make things easier.
- k) O'Reilly: What are your time commitments next semester?
- l) Manalang: Just college Dems on Monday, but other than that I am free.
- m) *Closed session begins: 11:32am*
- n) *Closed session ends: 11:33am*
- o) *Manalang appointed by unanimous consent*
- p) Samantha Dotson as Purple Friday Committee Chair (O'Reilly)

- i) O'Reilly: Samantha applied to chair the Purple Friday Committee, which Mairin and I were very excited about. The revival of Purple Friday is something that we thought about very early in our campaign, and we think Samantha will do a great job. Mairin has more information, so I defer to her.
- ii) Warner: In the application with me, she expressed so much excitement for the future of this committee. She is passionate about this committee and I think she will do a fantastic job with this committee.
- iii) Dotson: I'm very excited to revitalize this committee, and I would like to show why this is exciting. I think right now purple friday is lacking potential and I would like to
- iv) Bono: It's very important to have purple to wear on Friday. Is this a sacrifice you're willing to make?
- v) Dotson: Yes of course!
- vi) *Closed session begins: 11:35am*
- vii) *Closed session ends: 11:36am*
- viii) *Dotson appointed by unanimous consent*

iv) Minor Appointments

- a) Santino Bono as a Student at Large on the Vision Document Ad Hoc Committee (O'Reilly)
 - i) O'Reilly: Santino has served in Student Government for three years, and he's full of knowledge on how we work as well as opinions on where we should be going. I think that he will be a great addition to the Vision Document committee.
 - ii) Bono: My 4 day break from StuGov was nice, but I would like to come back and serve, albeit in a more minor role. My experience will provide Kennedy with good help.
 - iii) Owsley: What is your vision?
 - iv) Bono: I believe there is a lot of work to be done. I know advising is an issue people are discussing and I understand the Symposium classes are unpopular among the freshman. I know there are ways to promote engagement with things that are lacking currently.
 - v) *Bono is appointed by unanimous consent*
- b) Abby Knabe as an Associate Senator on the Diversity and Inclusion Committee (O'Reilly)
 - i) O'Reilly: Abby has served as a voting senator and associate senator of the Diversity and Inclusion committee. She has

lots of experience working on projects, and I have seen her consistently show up and go out of her way for Student Government. I think that she will do a fantastic job on this committee.

ii) Knabe: I've been on StuGov since I joined Turman. I've always been on this committee, it's like my baby. I want to help with the poetry slam, and help Kennedy work on the discrimination policy.

iii) *Knabe appointed by unanimous consent*

v) Oath of Office

vi) *Humphreyes, Peterson, Manalang, Knabe, Niemeyer, Cooper, and Dotson take the oath of office, and are appointed*

2) Executive Reports

a) President

i) O'Reilly: Welcome back everyone! I hope that your finals week is treating you well. Thanks for approving all of our positions today – I'm excited to have everyone get started. We still have positions open! We have a couple of people who have applied to be treasurer, so we'll be interviewing them and will hopefully appoint a treasurer at our next meeting. Until then, I know Mike is going to do a great job. We still have applications open for PR Director, Legislative Director, External Affairs Chair, Sexual Assault Prevention Designee, Black Student Representative, and Associate Senator. If you know anyone interested in these roles, use the summer to recruit them! The forms are all on the website, but if you can't access them for any reason you can message me and I'll send you the link. Please be accessible over the summer. If you know that you will not have access to Slack or the internet, please let me know in writing by the end of finals week. If you ever have problems with slack, you can text, email, GroupMe message, Snap, or Instagram DM me and I will most likely get your message! If you don't hear from me within 24 hours by those means, either try again or try a different route.

b) Vice President

i) Warner: I have a lot of exciting things, but would like to talk about the code of conduct. Please show up with the agenda already read and pulled up, as we will not have time for you guys to take 5 minutes to read it all. Please be an active member and stay engaged with the body, and understand that you are representing the body and act accordingly. If we feel you are not meeting the code of conduct we will have a little chat with you, and if you believe someone is not meeting this code of conduct please let me know. Committee's have been decided! Please refer to this document in slack for reference. ([Committees](#))

- ii) O'Reilly: I move to take a 10 minute recess to let committees create a report.
- iii) *10 minute recess begins: 11:46am*
- iv) *10 minute recess ends: 11:56am*
- v) Niemeyer: Do we make the slack channels for our committees or do you?
- vi) O'Reilly: You do. Also feel free to kick people out of the old channel and change it to your liking.
- vii) Phillips: Can we be on multiple committees at the same time?
- viii) O'Reilly: I would like to add to Marins report. We would like to meet with excom and committee chairs over the summer, and will be reaching out to you over slack so please be responsive.
- ix) Warner: Please talk with your committee members to come up with some goals for this semester

c) Treasurer

d) Secretary

- i) Zelk: I will be creating a new absence form, please keep a lookout for that!

- ii) Phillips: What attendance policy will you be following this year?

- iii) Zelk: I will continue to use the same policy passed by the Student Government last year.

e) PR Director

f) IT Director

- i) Williams: Over the next couple weeks I will be doing an overhaul of the website. Please send me a picture of yourself and email so i can update that. Please feel free to reach out to me over slack with any questions or suggestions.

- ii) Thomas: What if we don't have any professional photos?

- iii) Williams: No worries, just go ahead and send me a placeholder and we can update it later

g) Legislative Director

3) Advisor Reports

a) Staff Advisor

- i) Bates: If you're not showing up to this room as your best self, then please think hard about staying home. Please do not put my professional career at risk. I would rather you miss a meeting than have you show up and not take this seriously. I would like to see everyone work hard to make this a good year.

b) Faculty Advisor

4) Old Business

a)

5) Discussion Items

a) [Civics Bill](#) (Cooper)

- i)** Cooper: This bill is currently being considered in the faculty senate. This is going very weirdly, and many questions are being asked. I would like to get some student input, so I am bringing it to this meeting. Currently, you can take a 1 credit class, but this bill would require all students to take a 3 credit class unless they transferred to an AP class. I am unsure if it's going to pass in the faculty senate yet but we will see.
- ii)** Thomas: With the Missouri statute, you cannot transfer credits in, so I think that's why we have the 1 credit test class. I think a lot of people do enjoy taking that class even though this is a liberal arts university.
- iii)** Schadler: If the goal is to try and emphasize history, I don't think this is helping people discover their passion for history.
- iv)** Warner: Yesterday Colleen, Ella, and I were in the library and discussing this in the library. We were talking about possibly replacing the symposium classes with this as I have heard a lot of unhappy reports from the symposium. There are already a lot of required classes and adding another one could be an issue
- v)** Seim: I'm confused, so there are already 3 credit classes offered right?
- vi)** O'Reilly: POC, there is a one credit class right now that consists of 7 tests.
- vii)** Seim: Why can't we just combine these classes?
- viii)** O'Reilly: The civics exam is a missouri requirement, so we offer many different forms of this
- ix)** Niemeyer: In my opinion I believe AP credit classes are very common in this state, and I think it would be pointless to make people retake these classes, and I don't see any reason to get rid of this course.
- x)** Peterson: In my case, I know a lot of high schools require you to take a civics class so this seems redundant.
- xi)** Ella: POC, if you view the documents you can see the classes that qualify for the civics requirement. Having heard the political science opinions on this is that people don't take the 1 credit class seriously. I like Mairins idea of replacing this 1 credit class from the symposium in person to increase engagement. I personally moved out of the history major as I did not like the 3 credit classes I had to take, but I understand the validity of the concerns that our school is one of the only universities that offer a 1 credit class
- xii)** Cooper: POC, this list of classes that are available was in the bill, but were removed to increase clarity as other classes may be added to fulfill this requirement.
- xiii)** Bates: Is this the same class that everyone was failing?
- xiv)** Cooper: Yes it was.
- xv)** Bates: We were at a very high level of failure so we went after the department to get the test changed. You mentioned replacing the

symposium, but it fulfills a slightly different credit requirement so it may not be possible.

- xvi)** Manalang: I like the idea of replacing the symposium, but is there a requirement for professors to teach these classes like having a history background?
- xvii)** O'Reilly: I would assume not. If the symposium goes away I think we would see mostly history teachers teaching these but not as a hard requirement.
- xviii)** Logan: I like the idea of having this one credit class available, but I worry because having this 1 credit class would have you taking 10 credits instead of 9 for social sciences.
- xix)** *10 minutes added to discussion*
- xx)** Niemeyer: Right now I think we should just focus on the civics bill then talking about symposiums. I know that some courses like psychology classes apply for this so it's important to realize there is opportunity to overhaul other class credits as well.
- xxi)** O'Reilly: I'm hearing a lot of discussion about combining certain courses instead of having people take courses that they don't understand why they're taking and I like this idea.
- xxii)** Bates: I would like to clarify that you are not passing a resolution, and the faculty senate is meeting thursday. Do you think you will be asked for a semi professional opinion?
- xxiii)** Cooper: No
- xxiv)** Bates: I think we need to focus on what's important to work on since we don't have an official resolution.
- xxv)** Cooper: My idea was to take a straw poll after this to gain some opinions. The Faculty senate just wanted a basic student government opinion, and we don't need a full resolution. I wanted to discuss why we support or don't support it, and discuss the importance of other aspects of the bill.
- xxvi)** Schnake: I would say I personally don't support the bill as our retention rates are already really bad. Forcing students to take more classes they don't like may push them over the edge to transfer, especially during the first year when we are most at risk to lose students. I don't think it's practical to force students to take this class.
- xxvii)** Niemeyer: I don't think this bill is a good idea either, as I think that AP history is a very common class to take in high school and I think it would be a major waste of freshman student time.
- xxviii)** Thomas: With that being said I still think there's a large majority of students who did not take these AP classes. I think the suggestion of making the online 1 credit into a 2 credit course is a good idea. This wouldn't be too hard to do. I believe American history is important to understand and not a filler class, so we shouldn't just refer to the 1 credit class.

- xxix)** Phillips: I agree that this class is very redundant, and as a poli sci major this class is stressful and redundant with other things I am learning.
- xxx)** O'Reilly: I like the 2 credit course idea a lot. This can give you the flat rate of 3 credits that a lot of people are looking for and would not add up weirdly in the course load. This would fit well in the course load for students.
- xxxi)** Stout: Keep in mind we will need to have an opinion at the end of this.
- xxxii)** Humphreys: I also agree that this is redundant. There are certainly people that did not take classes in high school because of parental choices they had no control over. These people may not know many things about US history and it's important to have Truman students be well educated on US history regardless of their background. The majority of people have gone through this class many times and would be redundant.
- xxxiii)** Cooper: I would like to motion to do a straw poll
- xxxiv)** *Straw poll is taken, a result of unanimous do not support is gathered*
- xxxv)** Bates: Do you believe a resolution supporting this could be written? I know you would have to override some rules.
- xxxvi)** Cooper: Yes I can write this.
- xxxvii)** Bates: But you are all aware that this is in your best interest right? Based upon the way the faculty is acting I think you all need writing behind you.
- xxxviii)** Stout: the problem is when we all vote we need to have a 48 hour period.
- xxxix)** Bates: Is this in the standing rules?
- xl)** Stout: Yes.
- xli)** Cooper: I can get this turned in tomorrow during the meeting if you'd like.
- xlii)** Stout: I am hesitant to support this as it is finals week and only giving 24 hours would be a very fast turn around.
- xliii)** O'Reilly: This is a very fast turn around and Wiles and others would like a good decision. Right now I don't think we have a good idea for what a future bill would like and this would be important. I think a straw poll would be sufficient.
- xliv)** Niemeyer: I understand the quick turnaround, and its reading day so this could affect it. This seems to be a heated topic so I think having an official resolution would be a lot more powerful in the eyes of the faculty than the straw poll.
- xlv)** Thomas: I agree with Sal, as having a resolution would be more important than the straw poll. We also should discuss exactly what we want to see moving forward. If we don't pass this though, is there a representative we can send over to discuss this?
- Cooper: I would be at the meeting. And like Laura said, I believe having a resolution would be important, as the faculty are very passionate. In my unofficial opinion I did not think students would support this and people

thought I was insane. I think the only way to get faculty to support us would be to issue a formal opinion / resolution.

xlvi) Warner: How would we first and second read this?

xlvii) Stout: What section in the standing rules covers this?

xlviii) O'Reilly: This process is covered in section 28 of the standing rules.

xliv) Stout: I believe that we would probably have to read and second read twice in order to pass this in a 24 hour period. Although you could object to this and put it to a vote. We know that this resolution passed in UGC, and this resolution would be to reverse the tides of support. My concerns about this would be to facilitate questions being asked about the resolutions that we don't have answers to. I am concerned that a lot of us would not know what would be on this resolution.

i) Cooper: My plan for the resolution is to keep it short and sweet and not put a lot of detail into it. We are on a tight time span and I will just highlight why we do not support the bill. This is kind of where I am going with this, and I think I could have it written very soon if you would like.

ii) O'Reilly: Yeah I was going to say, can you write this by the end of the meeting. We have known about this civics bill for a while and I think it's weird to suspend the standing rules for something we have known about for a while. I am uncomfortable with suspending the standing rules during finals week especially because we need to have student support.

iii) Niemeyer: I think we should put time stamps on first and second reading.

iiii) Humphries: I think if we have a 24 hour period it could create a sense of urgency to vote.

liv) New Business

b) A motion passes to add a resolution to new business

c) [A Resolution against the civics bill](#)

d) Cooper: This is the resolution against the civics bill. I copied and pasted your concerns into this bill. If you have any comments or questions please leave them on the document, as I would like your comments.

e) Knabe: I really appreciate Kennedy's efficiency in getting this done so fast.

f) The resolution is first read

g) Motion is passed to suspend the standing rules, and the bill is second read

h) Peterson: Can we all just add our names to the top?

i) Stout: If you'd like to add your name to the sponsor that is okay.

j) Thomas: What does it mean to sponsor?

k) Stout: It just means that you support this bill, and please read it word for word to make sure you support everything.

l) Bates: When does the new Provost start? I feel adding Eric Freedman would be important.

- m) O'Reilly: Do you think it would be important to add that during discussion we rejected this by unanimous consent via a straw poll?
- n) Cooper: Yes, I will add that.
- o) O'Reilly: I think it would probably be helpful to include "people who have already transferred in history credits."
- p) Stout: Do we need more time to read and add suggestions to this?
- q) *5 minute recess begins at 12:46pm*
- r) *5 minute recess ends at 12:51pm*
- s) Jessie: I think this is a good resolution, and the departments will consider our voices on Thursday.
- t) Cooper: I rephrased some of the things, and added the civics committee to the common disseminations list.
- u) Bates: Is this one you need to send to Colleen, or will you make a hard copy?
- v) Cooper: I will make a hard copy.
- w) *The bill passed by unanimous consent.*

6) Committee Reports

- a) Academic Affairs Committee
 - i) Niemeyer: Thanks for your support, if you have anything for me please send them over the summer and I will get back as soon as I can
- b) Diversity and Inclusion Committee
- c) Environmental Affairs Committee
 - i) Schadler: This is exciting and I'm looking forward to recruiting students next year.
- d) External Affairs Committee
- e) Health, Wellness, and Safety Committee
- f) Sexual Assault Prevention Designee
- g) Student Affairs Committee
 - i) Manalang: If you have an idea for changes please let me know, I am always open to new ideas!
- h) Purple Friday Committee
 - i) If you know people who want to join, please hit me up! Go dogs!
- i) Parking Appeals Committee
- j) Athletic Fee Accountability Committee
- k) Environmental Sustainability Fee Accountability Committee

7) Auxiliary Reports

- a) Speaker
 - i) Stout: Not only is it Lucas's birthday, but I would also like to give him an accolade as the spring election person of the semester. Lucas got many people to join StuGov this year and were prepared to serve. I will see you all next year, and please stay in touch with me and your committees over the summer! Any questions?

