

**University-Wide Senate Minutes**  
**Saturday, August 13, 2016**  
**Camp Glisson Retreat Center**

- I. Call to Order by the presiding officer: Fortune Onwuzuruike, President at 8:22pm
- II. Opening Call of the Roll / Determination of Quorum – Yes (24 out of 46 = 52%)  
University-wide: Present – Fortune Onwuzuruike  
Alpharetta (2 seats): Present – DJ Murray Absent – 5 vacancies  
  
Atlanta (31 seats): Present – Joya Davies, Sara Moreno Duque, Erin Gardner, Usra Mohamed, Brian Nguyen, Joy Nwoke, Yemi Okanlawon, Joshua Scales, Tejal Vashi, Nwenekanma Wami  
Absent – Gabriela Batista-Vargas, Myles Brown, Juan Galvis, Chelsea Gordon, Chandler Harper, Jacob Hill, Ngocthy (Magie) Huynh, Gelila Kebede, Samantha Kruss, Julie Lavellee, Xinran (Bolbi) Liu, Kevin Martinez, Jose Mendez, Diamond Miller, Shaun Moore, Alexis Richardson, Cayla Roby, Leonardo Rodriguez, Viviana Santana, Chanel Smith, 2 vacancies  
  
Clarkston (4 seats): Present – Aleah Cleland, Jailyn Jackson, Betty Joseph, Ariana Roberts  
Absent – 2 vacancies  
  
Decatur campus (2 seats): Present – Chisom Enujiokwe, William Hunter, Jesse Saldana  
Absent – Samuel Lyons, Jordai Smith, 1 vacancy  
  
Dunwoody campus (5 seats): Present – Fariha Alam, Kwaku Bonsie, Jesse Calixte, Belchor Sebastiao  
Absent – Karim Daoudi, 1 vacancy  
  
Newton campus (2 seats): Present – Praneeth Eddu, Myles Nelson  
Absent – Vincent Beebe, Omoruyi Ologbosere, 2 vacancies  
  
Ex-officio guests present:  
Alpharetta – Chelsea Green  
Atlanta – Shamari Southwell, Blessing Akomas, Anthony Nguyen  
Clarkston – Chari Guzman, Lesly Veve  
Decatur – Briana Stanley, Christina Cherry, Shaquille Smith  
Dunwoody – Alexandr Burkon, Cheri Pruitt-Bonner  
Newton – Daniel Detlefsen, Theodore Belton, Levi Price  
Advisors – Boyd Beckwith, Dr. LeKeisha Jackson, Gail Sutton, Aprille Williams
- III. Reading and approval of the minutes from the previous meeting - No previous meeting exists.
- IV. Special reports – No reports
- V. Executive Cabinet reports from the EVP of each campus
  - a. Alpharetta Campus – No report
  - b. Atlanta Campus – No report
  - c. Clarkston Campus – No report
  - d. Decatur Campus – No report
  - e. Dunwoody Campus – No report
  - f. Newton Campus

- i. Efforts during the month of July have been consolidated mainly on two fronts: appointment and training of the executive board and documentation for initiatives in the upcoming academic year. Four overarching themes have been identified within the planned initiatives, establishing a clear and easily followed trajectory moving forward with the 2016-2017 terms.
- ii. The four themes established all correlate to existing problems and opportunities present on Newton Campus. The first being Outreach. While academics are vital to a successful college career, creating a community is key to empowering students to succeed, and this must not solely refer to intra-campus relations. Branding, being the second category, is an important tool in informing students and the areas we service that the Perimeter Campuses are now part of Georgia State, and that this comes multitudes of new opportunities. The third category is involvement. A problem ever present on many universities and colleges nationwide, increasing involvement is a nonstop effort in bolstering the quality student life. Lastly, Campus Improvement. This serves as a vaguer theme that focuses on improving the campus overall; services, academics, and planning for the future.
- iii. Headed by the Executive Vice President, a Public Safety Month is in the late planning stages. With many of the officers serving the various Georgia State campuses being moved around, different activities are being planned to allow both the students and new officers to be introduced to each other and the culture of their campus.
- iv. Appointed to the position of Communication Director is Alexander Arteaga. Coupled with the everyday duties of the position, planning and progress has begun on an improvement plan for the Athletic Center housed on Newton. The primary objective of this is to create a more appropriate environment for those using the facilities and secondarily, if possible, to acquire more athletic equipment.
- v. Appointed to the position of Finance Director is Theodore Betton. Looking to inspire those of the area we service to become successful students, he has pushed further with his High School Outreach initiative. By showing younger students that success is tangible and nearer than they might think, he hopes to empower those students in the areas around us.
- vi. Looking to aid future SGA administrations and allow them to start serving their terms with ease, the Speaker of the Senate has begun to compile pertinent information to be included in SGA Training Binders. With information such as in depth job descriptions, advice and experiences of past Senators, and guides to planning and following through with initiatives, this will be an invaluable resource to those who come after us.
- vii. Starting their efforts on a Student Outreach initiative, the Senator of Student Relations is hosting meet and greets to be held during Panther Welcome. By being more visible and accessible to the student body, Newton SGA hopes to gain a better understand of the unique needs of our campus as well as informing students of our goals.
- viii. The Senator of Academic Affairs has moved forward with an initiative regarding the Honors Department and its improved presence on the Newton Campus. Through providing the Honors Department with a special space that is more centralized on campus, SGA hopes to both improve Honors classes as well as influence more students to strive for higher academic success and further involvement.
- ix. The Senator for Clubs and Organizations has chosen to take a more personal approach to improving the presence of Student Clubs on campus. By allowing themselves to be an open

resource of information to the student body, they plan to ease the process of chartering and allow students to create more desired clubs on campus. Along with the continued ICC meetings and emphasizing coordination between all clubs and organization, SGA endeavors the overall quality of these programs.

- x. Informing student voters on candidates and the current political environment is a crucial step in helping them become politically literate. The Senator of Government Affairs hopes to do this by hosting a political panel and an open Q&A allowing students to ask questions that concern them as both students and voters. Through this, attendees will gain necessary information to act as an informed voter as well as the motivation to become an active participant in democracy.
- xi. These goals, among further initiatives in various stages of planning, help create the interlocking trajectory tracked by the four themes established earlier: Outreach, Branding, Involvement, and Campus Improvement. Newton SGA believes that these are vital parts of future success, and will continue to address these ideas moving forward.

VI. Communications Director Report

- a. Atlanta Campus
  - i. Follow GSU\_SGA on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

VII. Old Business - None

VIII. New Business

- a. Ratification of Constitution
  - i. DUN Speaker Veve motions to discuss Article 5 Legislative Branch, Section 5.1 Composition, subsection e. of the Constitution. Point of information by UW advisor Beckwith, only senators can make motions during senate meetings.
  - ii. DUN Senator Alam moves to discuss Article 5 Legislative Branch, Section 5.1 Composition, subsection e. of the Constitution/Senator Wami seconds
  - iii. President Onzuruike entertains a motion to continue the discussion for seven minutes Point of Inquiry from Advisor Beckwith, UW Advisor points out the reasons of vacancy of Section 4 Subsection e.  
ATL Senator Yemi motions to continue the discussion for five minutes  
ATL Senator Nwoke seconds, Yay 23/Nay 1/Abstain 0 = Motion passes
  - iv. A motion is made to remove the reasons why the Speaker of the Senate position may become vacant and it is seconded and is approved.
  - v. ATL Senator Scales moves to ratify the Constitution/ATL Senator Mohamed seconds  
Yay 23/ Nay 0/ Abstain 0 = **Motion Passes and the Constitution is ratified**
- b. Ratification of Bylaws
  - i. Communication Director A. Ngyugen requests a discussion about Article 10 Subsection B to see if everyone agrees with the law. He states that having the run-off elections at the end of the semester is extremely draining on the candidates and recommends the simple majority requirement be removed or the election process began earlier in the semester. ATL Senator Nwoke moves to discuss Article 10 Subsection B/Yemi seconds  
Yay 24/Nay 0/Abstain 0  
Point of Inquiry from NEW EVP Daniel Detlefsen asks "Are we safe to look at amending the schedule instead of the bylaws for runoff elections?"  
Point of Information from the President Onwuzuruike: Please restrict discussion to the motion on the floor.  
Point of Instruction from Advisor Beckwith: Please keep a speakers list
  - ii. ATL Senator Yemi moves to continue the discussion five more minutes, ATL Senator Mohammed seconds.

NEW Senator Nelson moves to close discussion, ATL Senator Wami seconds.

Yay 24/Nay 0/Abstain 0

- iii. ATL Senator Mohamed motions to amend Article 10 - Election Results, subsection A, subletter B. to a simple majority vote, ATL Senator Huynh seconds, Yay 21/Nay 2/Abstain 0 = Motion passes

ATL Senator Gordon motions to keep the law the way it is, DEC Senator Hunter seconds.

Yay 24/Nay 0/Abstain 0

Point of Information Advisor Beckwith, a simple majority is the same as 51% therefore the motion by Mohamed did not change anything.

Point of Information UW Advisor Beckwith: Seats are based off of last Fall's enrollment.

ATL Senator Wami campus motions to ratify the By Laws. ATL Senator B. Nguyen seconds/Yay 24/Nay 0/Abstain 0 = **Motion passes and Bylaws are ratified.**

- c. Review and approval of 2016-2017 Calendar

- i. ATL Senator Nwoke motions to discuss the calendar for five minutes/ATL Senator Wami seconds. Discussion centers around the election timeline and whether inauguration should be held before or after commencement.

ATL Senator Gardner motions to approve the calendar/Senator Wami seconds

Yay 22/Nay 1/Abstain 1 = **Motion passes and calendar to keep inauguration after commencement is approved.**

- d. University Senate Committee Appointments – President Onzuruike accepts requests for nominations to the following University Senate committees:

- i. Academic Programs Tuesdays Aug. 16 time tba
- ii. Admissions and Standards Wednesdays, 12:30 – 2 pm Aug. 31
- iii. Athletics Thursdays, 11:30 – 1 pm Sept 15
- iv. Budget Thursday 1:30 -3 pm Aug. 18
- v. Cultural Diversity Mondays 3:30 – 5 Aug. 30<sup>th</sup>
- vi. II&T Thursdays 10:30 am –Noon Aug. 18
- vii. Planning & Development Mondays 3 – 4:30 Aug. 29
- viii. Research Mondays, 3 – 4:30 pm Aug. 15
- ix. Student Life Thursdays Noon -1:30 Sept. 15
- x. University Senate Thursdays 3-4:30 Oct. 6
- xi. University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Tues, Sept. 20

#### IX. Closing Remarks

- a. Comments and announcements of the officers
  - i. Senator Myles Nelson of the Newton Campus: Scheduling for Elections
  - ii. Chelsea Gordon of the Atlanta Campus: Clarify Meeting Dates
- b. Closing Call of the Roll

#### X. President's Report

- a. Minimize side talking
- b. Attend Football events

#### XI. The meeting adjourned at 10:08 pm