



Atlanta Senate Meeting

Thursday, December 1, 2016

I. **Call to Order: Speaker Blessing Akomas at 7:23 pm**

II. **Opening Call of the Roll (Quorum Reached)**

Attendance: absent → Anthony Nguyen (tardy), Sara Moreno Duque, Cayla Roby, Joya Davies, Brian Nguyen (tardy), Julie Lavalley, Trayonna Smalls

III. **Reading & Approval of the minutes from the November 11, 2016 meeting**

a. Senator Yemi moves to approve. Senator Gray seconds. All in favor, 0 nay, 0 abstentions.

IV. **Special Reports**

a. University Representatives wishing to address the Senate

- Georgia Tech Representatives: Trying to convince Senate of two things: They know how to do 'magic' and want to do 'magic' on GSU campus. Presentation of Internship application (INTERNBLITZ). Website that allows finding internship opportunities to happen easier.

1. EVP Southwell: How do you aggregate the open positions?

Representative: We go through the company itself instead of a middle man.

2. Mohamed: The paragraphs are descriptions of the positions?

Representative: Yes.

3. Senator Okanlawon: What prompted you to start this website?

Representative: After applying for 150 sales internships—and only heard back from 5--this made me want to make a way to automate the process.

4. Senator Scales: Will the company know that it is through this website?

Representative: No

5. Senator Gray: Have you done this before on GA Tech campus? How did it go?

Representative: Because GA Tech has resources like this GSU will be the start.

6. Senator Livingston: What are you asking of the Senate?

Representative: We want to build connections with campus leaders. Get support from marketing for SGA and make connections with faculty, staff and students.

7. Justice Akomas: Is this geared towards all fields or just a few?

Representatives: This is geared more to sales and IT.

8. Justice Akomas: If you get more research opportunities it would be better for GSU because we are a major research university.

9. Senator Okanlawon: Would it be more useful to link these internships to the classroom?

Representatives: Our campus doesn't provide too much for hours and internships but we are open to using it with colleges that do internships for credit.

- b. Student Forum (Students wishing to address the Senate)

- None

- c. Two minute speeches by members of the Senate

- None

V. Executive Cabinet Reports

- a. Report of the Communications Director, Director Nguyen

- 150 lapel pins are being ordered for Atlanta campus
- SGA mugs are popular
- SGA Now is in the process of happening. We can't do it monthly but we are trying to do it bi-weekly or online.
- Senate Development: we are working to have more hands on meetings next semester.

- b. Report of the Finance Director, Director Smith

- Working on a financial aid survey with Jeff Benson and there have been a lot of responses.
- Senator Okanlawon: We have gotten a lot of feedback about Financial Aid. Want to encourage students to do this survey in order to solve specific issues.

- c. Report of the Speaker of the Senate, Speaker Akomas
 - SGA Now: Meetings coming regarding the future of the publication
 - Applications for senate seats are still open on OrgSync
 - Senator Terminations based on Attendance: Jacob Hill, Jose Mendez, Juan Galvis, Chandler Harper, Chanel Smith and Bolbi Liu

VI. University Senate Committee Reports

- a. Report of the Academic Affairs Committee Chair, Committee Chair Wami
 - Will not be having Panther Kits unless they arrive this week (mistake happened in ordering and it is delayed)
- b. Report of the Student Life Committee Chair, Committee Chair Batista – Vargas
 - Org Fair on January 31, 2017
 - Working on better communication flow to improve student life and co-sponsorship process. Trial run has shown us how to make this useful.
 - List will be posted with all of the approved/denied co-sponsorships.
- c. Report of the Student Services Committee Chair, Committee Chair Scales
 - No committee meeting this week
 - Cat Nap: Room is chosen, 5-10 beds have been rented as well as alternative sleeping options (need to know how much money to apply to Cat Naps from the Grocery shuttles). First week of use for the room will be during spring midterms and then again at Spring finals.

VII. Old Business

- a. none

VIII. New Business

- a. Nomination and Confirmation of Election Commission Officers
 - Report from Arinze Akomas: Interviews happened today
 - Usra Mohamed will be the Atlanta Election Committee Chair
 - Bebe Eke will be the Atlanta Vice Chair for Logistics
 - Applications remain open for the Atlanta Vice Chair for Marketing until Fri., Jan. 13.
- b. Nomination and Confirmation of RCB Senators:
 - RCB Nominees:
 1. Josh Akinola-King
 2. Luke Owens

- College of Arts and Sciences Nominees:
 1. Antrell Vinning
 2. Eric Brown
- Senator Gray moved to confirm the candidates. Senator Wami seconded. All in favor, 0 nay, 0 abstentions.
- c. Swearing in of Candidates – all candidates were sworn in by Justice Akomas

IX. Break for Refreshments

X. Closing Remarks

- a. Executive Vice President's Report, EVP Southwell
 - Recent University news: Undocumented students will be admitted to the Atlanta Campus: Speaks to influence/advocacy that SGA has
 - Diversity Fee Committee will need more student representatives (3 more): Meeting Times → Fridays at 3 pm
 1. Appointees: Alexander Lloyd, Markeesa Walker, DeV Vaughn Wragg
 2. Alternate: Josh Scales, Maxwell Turner, Tiffany, Antrell Vinning
 - Student Activity Fee meeting tomorrow: 2 pm
 - Election Commission Marketing position opening – encourage applications.
 - One vacancy in the College of Arts and Sciences
 - Two vacancies in College of Education
 - E-Board please stay after the meeting tonight.
- b. Comments and announcements of the officers
 - Senator Gray: Thank you for welcoming me back. Have a restful break. I want next semester to be more familiar.
 - Senator Scales: I would like to attest to that. I think we need to come together. As for attendance, you committed to the Bylaws and rules and you not showing up is very disrespectful. Come in with a more committed mindset next time.
 - Senator Mohamed: This has been a great semester. Such a wonderful experience. I have learned so much so thank you. I would love for us to push some things through next semester. Yemi: Round of applause for her service → she will be graduating this semester.

- Senator Yemi: I have enjoyed my time in SGA. You are all like my family. I want to continue to get to know everyone. Senators need to remember that the purpose of SGA is to serve the students so make sure you know what you are getting into.
- Senator Brown: Congrats to the freshmen liaisons.
- Liaison Moore: Extend a thank you for the patience and everything through the work on the liaison bill. Will be happy to speak with anyone who wants to come to Law School. Extends an invite to students wanting to attend their meetings as well as the president to come here.
- Advisor Sutton: It has been a pleasure getting to know you and the community since I joined the staff in late July 2016. We should have a great Spring ahead.
- Advisor Beckwith: Grateful to have Gail and her position. He will continue to be at meetings for the last bit of this year. He is proud of what SGA is becoming—building on your predecessors. Tremendous ideas being generated from liaisons and senators.
- Liaison Nashbi: Thank you for being kind to the liaisons and thank you for the opportunity to join SGA. He’s had the opportunity to see the changes we can have on the campus, city, state and world so thank you.
- Senator Nwoke: I want to say I love you all. That is it.

XI. Closing Call of the Roll

- Attendance: absent → Arinze Akomas, Sara Moreno Duque, Cayla Roby, Joya Davies, Diamond Miller, Julie Lavelle, Trayana Smalls

XII. Adjournment.

- Senator Gray moved to adjourn the meeting. Senator Scales seconded. All in favor, 0 nay, 0 abstentions.