Atlanta Senate Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 3, 2018

Atlanta Campus, CN 2240; 4:15 p.m.

I. Call to Order: Speaker of the Senate Fatoumata Barry at 1:52PM

II. Opening Call of the Roll & Determination of Quorum: Senate Clerk Olivia Abie
(Absent: Communications Director Lazare, Senator Gomez, Maddali) Quorum achieved with 21 presently senators out of 23

III. Special Orders

a. Seating bill for the Senate Clerk:
   -Interviews have been conducted, and Olivia Abie has been elected as Senate Clerk
   -Senator moved to approve the seating bill for Senate Clerk, Seconded by Senator
   -The bill passed with 21 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions

b. Seating bill for Speaker Pro Tempore
   -Senator Nicholson nominated herself for the position of Speaker Pro Tempore
   -Senator Torrance nominated Senator J. Jones for the position of Speaker Pro Tempore
   -Senator Jones two-minute speech: He joined SGA three years ago as an undergraduate Senator for Robinson College of Business, and has gained a lot of experience that will make him an excellent Speaker Pro Tempore. He led a lot of freshmen with mentoring, and has been working with freshmen, so he can bring more freshmen in SGA. He would also like to have this position to be involved with the executive board and work with EVPs to write guidelines for senators, and create more involvement of transfer liaisons. He wants to guide student leaders on what to do, how to do it to help senators accomplish what they came to do in SGA.

   Senator Nicholson two-minute speech: She’s a graduate Senator for the School of Public Health. Serving as Speaker Pro tempore, she knows that communication is vital to serve on a vacancy committee. So many graduate students are not involved in SGA, therefore her focus will be to advocate for graduate students. She has a lot of experience from serving in the internal affairs for public council. She has helped freshmen encompass in everything Georgia state serve for.

   -Senator Siemer moved to discuss for 5 minutes, seconded by Senator Garcia Velazquez
   -Senator Garcia Velazquez called the question
- Senator Jones was elected as Speaker Pro Tempore with 16 votes in favor, 0 abstentions

c. **Seating bill for Communications and Finance Director**
- Interviews have been conducted and Naveen Bommakanti was elected as Finance Director, and Kalisha-Lourdy Lazare was elected as Communications Director
- Senator Bivins moved to vote on the seating bill for Communications and Finance Director, Seconded by Senator Rahman
- The bill passed with 18 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstentions

d. **Seating bill for the Academic Affairs Chair, Student Engagement Chair, Student Services Chair**
- Senator S. Wright, and Rahman nominated themselves to be Academic Affairs Chair
- Senator S. Wright two-minute speech: She’s an undergraduate Senator for the Robinson College of Business. She has been serving for SGA since last semester. She’s a very dependable and flexible person, and can conduct professional organized meetings. She would like to continue with what former Chair of Academic Affairs Jessica Siemer established last year, for example the finals week, and advising. She wants to bring more advisement, she has advantages as she worked with student affairs previously and has connections with that sector.

- Senator Rahman two minute-speech: He’s senator for the College of Arts and Sciences. Students education is on the line, and it is important to take control of that. He wants to work on academic honesty retaliation, his first proposal is to have an anonymous way for reporting academic dishonesty. He believes advisement is not consistent at GSU. He wants to improve Georgia State teaching methods, and bring student evaluation where they can talk about misconduct by teachers. He’s running a campaign on open clarity and retaliation
- Senator Garcia moved to discuss for 5 minutes, seconded by Senator Bivins
- Senator Garcia Velazquez called the question
- Senator S. Wright was nominated for the Academic Affairs Chair with 12 votes in favor, and 2 abstentions

- Senator Iyer nominated Senator Siemer for Student Engagement Chair
- Senator Thomas nominated Senator A. Jones for Student Engagement Chair
- Senator Muhammad nominated himself for Student Engagement Chair
- Senator Siemer two-minute speech: She’s the former Academic Affairs of last SGA administration. She had a great experience working with executive board
and former Student Engagement Chair Akinola-King. She wants to be active during the summer, and get the word about co-sponsorship out there early, funding committee. She wants to help organizations use their funds as much as they can. She also wants to make sure that there is enough resources for students, and help students to know how to plan events. SGA can make an impact by supporting all the other organizations. Funding wise, she wants to hold the health center accountable. She wants to continue the legacy of last previous administration.

-Senator Aniyah Jones two-minute speech: She’s a rising senior and a returning senator for the School of Public Health from the previous 88th administration. She has been working closely with Akinola-King for the dining hall meal plan. She wants to focus on the end of year banquet. She has a great capability of creating relationship with different organization. As a traditional student, and she wants to promote student involvement and engagement of all students, and help them enjoy our experience

-Senator Muhammad two-minute speech: He’s a Senator for the Robinson College of Business, and he would like more students to get involved. With this position he will like to improve housing, clubs, cafeteria. For example, North and piedmont have two different environments, Piedmont has more nice housing compared to North. As the leader of the cricket club he cares about student needs,

-Senator Torrance nominated herself for Student Services Chair
-Senator Siemer nominated G. Wright for Student Services Chair

-Senator Torrance two-minute speech: She’s a senior in Speech Communications, and has experience with all offices. As a new student leader, she worked from 6-6pm to make sure that all students got their financial aid, school card, and transportation. She has worked with every single department at Georgia State University. She has been a commuter student, working full-time student, tradition student. She wants to improve financial aid by allowing commuter students to make an appointment which will allow them to do other things instead of waiting in the financial aid office. She wants to improve the phone services. She wants to improve parking, and transportation, through the fee committee SGA. She wants to get involved with that, so that students can take advantage with everything that is here
- Senator G. Wright two-minute speech: he was a former senator for the Decatur campus and new senator for Andrew Young School of Public Policy. He’s got a lot of stuff done, he started the transportation system initiative for all Perimeter campuses. He fed off of finals week from Senator Siemer and created a finals week event at Decatur Campus called Cram Jam for all students, teachers, LTC to join, and it was a successful event where at least 21 students participated. He cares about student’s financial aid, career services, and has an active leadership for the honors society.

- Senator Bivins moved to vote for 5 minutes, seconded by Senator Rahman
- Senator A. Jones called the question
- Savannah Torrance was selected as the new Student Services Chair with 8 votes in favor

IV. Two-minute speeches by members of the Senate
V. Executive Cabinet Reports [Waived]
VI. SGA Senate Committee Reports [Waived]
VII. Advisor Report
   a. Self-assessments for student leaders
      - Advisor Sutton: The self-assessment is for all students’ leader to take based on the change on the bylaws

VIII. Old Business
IX. New Business
   - Co-sponsorship: Senator Iyer, Garcia Velazquez
   - Vacancy Committee: Senator Munoz, Siemer,

X. Comments and announcements from officers
XI. Executive Vice President Report
   EVP Iqbal: The SGA office is getting renovated soon, the area located in front of the conference room will be remodel into a lounge for officers to sit down and interact with each other

XII. Closing call of roll: Senate Clerk Olivia Abie
   (Absent: Communications Director Lazare, Senator Gomez, Maddali)

XIII. Adjournment

- Senator Torrance moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by senator G. Wright at 6:45PM