University-Wide Senate Meeting

Minutes

Date: Thursday, March 14, 2019
Time: 7:15 PM
Location: Rm. 170, Urban Life, 140 Decatur St SE, Atlanta, GA 30303

Absences:
- Atlanta - David Osilaja, Malcolm Mondesir, Jasmine Johnson, Sheri Kearse,
- Alpharetta - Michelle Martinez, Julia Estes,
- Clarkston - Kristin Nwadike
- Decatur
- Dunwoody
- Newton - Ibreyanna Clark, Cassie Thomas

I. The meeting was called to order by President Patterson at 7:25 p.m. and quorum was achieved.

II. The minutes from the 2/28/19 meeting were approved.
   a. Senator Abraham moved to approve minutes, seconded by senator Walton
   b. The motion passed with 18 in favor, 0 against, and 0 abstentions

III. Special Reports
   a. University Representatives wishing to address the Senate
   b. Student Forum – students wishing to address the Senate
      i. Micah Ford
         1. Wants to start a petition to get a second mascot on campus
         2. Believes that it is unreasonable for Perimeter campuses to pay for a mascot that may or may not be available for an event
         3. The Clarkston Campus has “Jaggy” the mascot. Asking for mascot on campus without charge
         4. Point of Inquiry that all campuses pay for Pounce and someone has to cover the costs of having a mascot. Would like clarification if the student is requesting funding from SGA
         5. Point of inquiry by Senator Garcia, instead of asking for secondary mascot, ask the university to have someone that will have it part of their job description to dress in the suit so there is always availability for that mascot
         6. Point of inquiry by Executive Vice President Smith, says the main problem is having the suit available. It has been a hassle to request it because it is similar to requesting print media digital forms, It’s going to take some time, and it will take more money.
         7. EVP Smith says that she’s spoken to Micah about having two mascots, but she believes having two mascots is what separates us from being one GSU. EVP Smith says it’s hard to get the spirit aspect of one GSU on their campus because they cannot get the mascot on the other campus
         8. Point of inquiry by Senator Siemer, if you rent the suit and not the person there is no charge. Has spoken to Athletics about purchasing a separate suit just for Perimeter campuses
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9. Point of information, it is $50 per hour to rent a suit
10. President Patterson says they will bring up the petition again
11. Suggestion that someone should follow up with more information before creating a petition because it may be quicker
12. Point of information by Senator Garcia that it is $100 per hour to rent Pounce for a none game day appearance

ii. Bernadette, Clean Energy Resolution
1. Will bring up Clean Energy Resolution on April 18th and will need the school president to sign
2. Asking for the senate’s support to pass the bill
3. If passed they plan to be on Solar Energy by 2025 and would like Georgia State to be a part of that to help the city of Atlanta
4. Bernadette will be giving her testimony on April 18 and hopes the senates can support
5. Point of Inquiry asking if this proposal was given to the Atlanta Senate, Senator Siemer responds that they are drafting a university wide resolution. They’ve decided that it will be presented at the April 15th meeting because it will correspond with the Earth Day GSU celebration on April 18th
6. Senator Siemer says that they will propose that the last strategic plan for GSU in 2011 included no statements about sustainability and will request that they build in strategic goals towards sustainability. Specifically, things like making sure new buildings are solar ready and changing academic policies to promote professors to be more sustainable

c. Officers wishing to address the Senate
i. Senator Mai, Friendly amendment
1. Senator Mai would like to make a friendly amendment to the agenda in order to add a support resolution for Ayesha in New Business
2. Senator Mai amended, seconded by Senator Thompson
3. Senator Mejia friendly amendment to add supporting resolution ___, seconded by Senator Diallo

ii. Senator Walton and Senator Tomcho
1. Will meet with Vice President Blackburn and Director of Financial aid office about all complaints from constituents on March 28th at 1 pm

IV. Special Orders
a. Confirmation of appointments/nominations to the legislative branch
i. Senator Robinson is sworn in by SJB Liaison Jackson
b. Confirmation of appointments to the executive branch
i. Special Order for Speaker Barry-Diallo to serve the Atlanta Campus as Executive Vice President for the remainder of the 89th administration
1. Senator Wright presents the special order
2. Senator Garcia asked why this legislation is being presented at the University-Wide meeting, instead of the Atlanta meeting. Senator Siemer answered that it needed to be confirmed by the highest officers. Senator Garcia motioned a call to question
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3. Bill passed with 18 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstention
4. Barry is sworn in by SJB Liaison Jackson

V. Executive Cabinet reports from the EVP of each campus (Plan on reports sent out prior in email)
   a. Alpharetta Campus
      i. Moving forward with leaking situation, they have inspectors coming out today.
      ii. Senator Mackey and Cummings have started co-sponsorship form and have made
          minor changes to it
      iii. Alpharetta campus does have a full senate, if not the only vacancy is Speaker
      iv. As far as the Public Safety Committee, EVP Seymour has been putting up signs
          saying that vaping will affect your college transcript sense it is a violation of student
          code of conduct
      v. EVP Seymour says minor changes have happened, students are still vaping, but not as
         much as before.
   b. Atlanta Campus
   c. Clarkston Campus
      i. Their past events have been successful, recently had an election showcase for their
         past coffee corner.
      ii. Clarkston Campus is looking forward to having their wall of fame very soon and will
          have the applications for the candidates on PIN
      iii. The Clarkston campus does have an unofficial tradition. Every year they have an
           international festival.
      iv. Also plans on having a Clarkston community celebration on April 18th. It is more
           inclusive of the different aspects of the Clarkston community
   d. Decatur Campus
      i. EVP Walters says that they recently had a canned food drive event, Soul Food dinner
         and watched the movie The Hate U Give.
      ii. At the soul food drive people gave away at least 30 cans.
      iii. They are working with LTC in the library for events regarding tutoring and finals
           coming up in April and May
      iv. Tomorrow they are joining with PACS dealing with Medshare and giving back
   e. Dunwoody Campus
   f. Newton Campus
   g. Communications Director

VI. Committee Reports
   a. Safety Committee: Senator Nicholson & Thomas
      i. Senator Thomas was able to negotiate having an officer at the intersection of John
         Wesley Dobbs and Piedmont Avenue NE to watch the front of the Piedmont Central
         Dining hall at night and the entrance of University Commons so students will feel
         safer walking outside the dorms late at night
      ii. Senator Thomas says we will be seeing the new call boxes in the Fall
      iii. We will get 12 callboxes in the housing corridor
      iv. Traffic study will be on the same intersection between Piedmont Central
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v. Some officers have body cams, not all of them. However, more are on the way
vi. Three events that are happening on the Atlanta Campus are
   1. Kick Butts Day on March 25th at Unity Plaza from 11 am to 2 pm
   2. Tabling on April 16th at Student Center East in front of the Info lobby desk
   3. Will be partnering with the Office of Sustainability at the Earth Week event at Hurt Park on April 18th to pick up Cigarette Butts found on campus
   4. Will be tabling on all campus in the future

b. Bylaw Committee: Senator G. Wright
   i. Senator Wright says they have been working on numerous bills that will be presented tonight
   ii. The next bylaw meeting will be the Thursday after Spring Break March 28 at 5 pm

c. Ad-hoc Human Trafficking Committee: Senator Abraham
   i. Their event for this week was cancelled because they did not get survivors in time for the event today

d. Ad-hoc Homeless Committee: Ms. Powell - No report

VII. University Senate Reports

   a. President Patterson asked if anyone has heard from committee, Senator Tomcho says Academic Affairs has a meeting set up. The Budget Committee has met as well. The Academic Affairs Committee will meet March 28th at 3:00
   b. Senator Siemer says the next Budget Meeting is Thursday March 28th at 12:30. The Student Life Meeting will be Friday, March 29th from 1 to 2:30

VIII. Old Business – None

   a. Senator Fye asks President Patterson how the Change my Mind Event looks.
   b. Points of inquiry that the Change my Mind Event is supposed to be controversial and is supposed to be shocking.
   c. Senator Fye asks for the title of the Coffee Corner event on the 16th. EVP Orak responds that it is Self Defense. EVP Orak says they have reserved a room for students to learn self-defense and at the same time they will be tabling and serve coffee

IX. New Business

   a. 89-UWSR-03 A Supporting Resolution for the Signal
      i. Legislation introduced by Senator Walton
      ii. The first bill is a University-Wide Resolution to commend the Signal and Panther Report News
      iii. In the future whenever an organization or club does something amazing or celebratory they want to celebrate them.
      iv. Senator Walton believes The Signal and Panther Report News has done that
      v. Called to question by Senator Mai
      vi. Legislation passed with 25 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstains

   b. 89-UWSR-04 A Supporting Resolution the Students for Justice in Palestine
      i. Legislation introduced by Senator Walton
      ii. The second bill is a University-Wide Opinion Resolution to Commend Students for Justice for Palestine for their Activism
      iii. Motion by EVP Smith to look up the students for Justice of Palestine’s names
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iv. They are not a chartered student organization
v. Senator Mai Calls to question
vi. Legislation passed with 20 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstains

c. 89-UWB-08 A Bill to Increase the Number of Points Assigned for Missing Meetings or Leaving Early
i. Bill introduced by Senator S. Wright
ii. President Patterson says the third University bill will make removal from SGA due to an over accumulation of points. The same as a ban of period of 1 year or suspension
iii. Senator Wright announces that this is University Wide bill to suspend terminated SGA officers from holding a stipend position in SGA until after the next administration
iv. This is because they feel student leaders who are terminated from SGA should have the chance to get an Executive Board position.
v. This legislation should take place within the 91st administration
vi. Senator Nicholson suggests more clarification instead of just saying the 91st administration. Point of information by Senator Garcia, says the reason they say the next administration is because giving a timeline can get fuzzy. Senator Nicholson says she is not suggesting a timeline, but instead clarify the language.
vii. Senator Garcia gives a friendly amendment to say subsequent administration
   1. President Patterson asks if there is a motion to open the floor for discussion.
      Senator Siemer moves to discuss, seconded by Senator Walton.
   2. Point of Information that if we terminate the points in the 90th administration then they’re not allowed to run for the 91st administration.
   3. Point of Inquiry by Senator Tooke, asks if this only applies to Stipend positions.
      President Patterson responds no
   4. Speaker Fye says the reason we do not want to bar people from SGA is because on all campuses we want someone who still knows the system to come back
   5. Senator Siemer says that someone could make a motion to amend the bill to change the language from all SGA officers or we could leave it as is.
   6. Friendly amendment from Senator to change it to all SGA officers
   7. Senator Walton moves to amend the bill by striking out a stipend position,
      Seconded by Senator S. Wright
   8. Bill not passed with 7 in favor, 11 opposed, 6 abstentions
viii. Point of Inquiry by Senator Thomas, asks if the bill was to pass, if through the point system if someone was removed for not doing their job could they not come back for any other position. Senator replies that they cannot come back for the 91st administration. Senator says that were not saying you cannot ever come back.
ix. President Patterson asks for Point of Order
x. Executive Vice President states that we do not want to abandon people, we want to always be flexible and open for people to come to SGA. If there is a stipend position there is a possibility that if they’re applying to an administration after their termination, then they are applying to get paid.
xi. Senator Thomas says if we are worried about stopping good students from being in SGA, then good students would have done their job in the first place. Senator
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responds that we are students first, many people have jobs and we should not neglect
people from being an Atlanta Senator
xii. EVP Seymour explains to the senate that she does not like the bill because you cannot
say that we are one GSU, but at the same time penalize one community and not the
other community
xiii. Point of order by President Patterson
xiv. Senator Siemer moves to extend the conversation by 5 minutes, Senator Walton seconds
xv. Senator Walton believes it should be all people because it evens the playing field
xvi. Senator Johnson says it is not an equal playing field because the senators on the
Perimeter Campuses are stipend. Senator Johnson says when money is involved it
makes people care a little more
xvii. President Patterson clarifies argument, says that senates have just voted to amend the
bill, at this time arguing that the validity of this bill will hereby restrict stipend members
xviii. Speaker Pro Tempore Jones calls to question, Seconded by Senator Johnson
xix. Bill passes as is with 23 In favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstains
xx. Bill we go into effect in the 91st administration
d. 89-UWB-09 A Bill to Increase the Consequences for Nonfeasance
   i. Presented by Senator Siemer
   ii. A bill to increase the number of points a SGA official will receive when they miss a
       meeting
   iii. Currently the points system is 7 point if you miss a campus meeting and 5 points if
        you miss a university wide meeting
   iv. Senator Siemer says that they’ve noticed people would sign in for the meeting then
       leave. Proposing increasing points to 3 points if you leave meeting
   v. Senator Siemer says they are changing leaving a campus meeting from 7 to 10 and
      university wide meetings are staying the same at 5 points
   vi. Senator Nicholson moves to discuss for 10 minutes, Senator Walton seconds
       1. Senator Nicholson asked, “why are we not getting more points for university
          wide meetings?” Senator Garcia answered that the university wide meetings are
          a lot less frequent.
       2. EVP asks why don’t we increase the university Wide points to 7 because it is
          more important for university wide to meet quorum. Senator Siemer responds
          that it is at the Presidents discretion and they want to make it fair
       3. Senator asks that if this bill is going into effect immediately, could the senate
          also discuss that many students have not been getting paid. Senator Siemer
          suggests adding it to the agenda as Old Business
       4. President Patterson asks Senator Garcia to restate the bill. Senator Garcia says
          the amendment is to change Point J to scheduled campus senate meetings and
          Point F to university campus committee meetings
          a. Amendment passed with 15 in favor, 8 opposed, 4 abstains
   vii. Senator Wright calls to question, Seconded by Senator Nicholson
   viii. Bill passed with16 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstains
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e. **89-UWB-10 A Bill to amend voting procedures**
   i. Presented by Senator Siemer
   ii. University-Wide Bill to remove roll call voting
   iii. In the bylaws it states that senates must do a roll call vote, but changing it to just raising placards
   iv. Motion to discuss, seconded by __
   v. You can still request a roll call vote
   vi. Bill passed with 23 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstain

f. **89-UWB-11 A Bill to Mandate Presidential Visits to Campuses and to Shift the Hours of the President**
   i. Presented by Senator Siemer
   ii. Senator Mai calls to question
   iii. Bill passed with 21 In favor: 21, 0 opposed, 2 abstains


g. **89-UWSR-05 EVP Iqbal Supporting Resolution**
   i. Presented by Senator Mai
   ii. Senator Mai announces that EVP Iqbal worked hard to create positive change amongst the GSU community
   iii. The Student Government Association commends Executive Vice President Ayesha Iqbal for the diligent work she has achieved during the 89th administration, section two all other EVPs which come after EVP Iqbal should follow her example in speaking for students in the way the deserve, and section 3 this legislation should take place immediately
   iv. Called to question by Senator ____
   v. Supporting resolution with 23 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstain

h. **89-UWSR-06 GILEE**
   i. Presented by Senator Mejia
   ii. Supporting resolution to encourage Georgia State University to withdraw its police department from the Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange Program
   iii. Would like to instead redirect its funding to appropriate police training activities
   iv. Senator Mai motions to move this agenda item to the Safety Committee, Seconded by Senator ____
   v. Motion to postpone consideration of bill indefinitely, seconded by Senator
   vi. 2 In favor, 12 opposed, 7 abstains
   vii. Motion to send this bill to committee, seconded by Senator Siemer
   viii. 10 In favor, 4 opposed, 7 abstains
   ix. Bill moved to Ad-hoc committee under Safety Committee and will then be brought up in Old Business

X. **Closing Remarks**

   a. **Comments and announcements of the officers**
      i. Director Malbrough - Working to establish polling locations on the Atlanta and Clarkston campuses
      ii. Barry: taking emails regarding absences for meeting
      iii. Senator Nicholson: GILEE bill moved straight to ??
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iv. Senator Siemer what Gail wrote on Webex.

v. Travel needs to be completed by 31st

vi. Senator announced that voting will take place after Spring break from the 26th-28th on Panther Involvement Network. Senator Siemer says there will be a link on the front page of PIN to vote. Senator Siemer asks for anyone that is not running to help out at the polling stations.

vii. There will be polling stations in library plaza from the 26th-28th from 10 am to 2 pm.

viii. Speaker Barry announces that she will still be taking any emails regarding absences for the meeting until the next meeting.

ix. Senator Nicholson says it is important that you hold yourself accountable in SGA and that you show up to meetings if you want to have an opinion.

x. Senator Walton and Senator Tomcho asks Senators to contact them about Financial Aid meeting.

xi. Senator Thomas announces the next university wide committee meeting will be April 11th at 3:30.

xii. EVP announces that Coffee Corner will be at the Dunwoody Campus from March 26th from 1 to 2:15. The candidates are invited.

b. Closing Call of the Roll

XI. President’s Report (10 Minutes Max)

a. President Patterson says we cannot yell over each other, as student representatives we should respect each other, President Patterson also says that we should not have had to call Point of order more than 5 times today.

b. President Patterson announces that the next meeting on April 18th will have a controversial bill.

c. All the bills will be sent out prior.

d. President Patterson says this is the last meeting where any bill can be passed and where everyone has a chance to speak for their constituents. President Patterson says the 89th administration is coming to a close and that he did not like the way the meeting was conducted.

e. President Patterson thanks everyone for showing up in person and would like everyone to show up in person to the April 18th meeting.

f. President Patterson has invited higher officials to attend the next meeting.

XII. Adjournment (9:28 PM)