

Atlanta Campus Senate Meeting

Thursday, August 29, 2019

- I. **Call to Order: Speaker of the Senate, Kaelen Thomas at 7:21PM.**
- II. **Opening Call of the Roll & Determination of Quorum: Senate Clerk Brittany Dankwa**
(Absent: Senators Walker, Cedric Jackson, and Milani Quorum was reached with 19 out of 22 seated senators present.)
- III. **Reading & Approval of Minutes from August 10, 2019.**
 - a. **Senator Walton to approve** the senate meetings, **seconded by Senator Le.**
 - b. **Motion passes.**
- IV. **Special Reports**
- V. **Special Orders:**
 - a. **Seating of New Members of the Atlanta Senate (90-CSO-ATL-CL-07)**
 - i. **Senator Jones presents** legislation to seat Kalil Garrett, as an Undergraduate Senator for the College of Arts and Sciences.
 - a. **Senator Walton calls to question**
 - b. **Senator Mai seconds.**
 - c. **Motion passes. 18 For. 1 Against. 0 Abstentions.**
 - d. **Senator Garrett**, is excited to be a part of the 90th Administration. Garrett is a senior, double-majoring in Computer Science and Mathematics. After undergraduate he hopes to become a professor and conduct Cybersecurity Research in Privacy as well as teach at the undergraduate level. He is motivated by helping others. When he ran on the election trail, his platform was keeping D.O.O.R.S open, which stands for increases in Documentation, Opportunities, Outreach, Representation, and Sustainable Action.
 - b. **Seating of Head Senators (90-CSO-ATL-CL-08)**
 - i. **Speaker Thomas opens** the floor for 5 minutes for each college to decide who their head senators will be.
 - a. **College of Arts and Sciences:** Senator Tinsley
 - b. **College of Nursing and Health Professions:**
 - c. **A.Y. School of Policy Studies:** Senator Dehart
 - d. **J.R. School of Business:** Senator Saied
 - e. **College of Education and Human Development:** Senator Cornett
 - f. **College of Public Health:** Senator Ebiringa and Senator Staine
 - a. **Senator Abraham moves** to amend section 7 to read "... as Co-Chairs."
 - ii. **Speaker Thomas entertains a friendly amendment to sections 2 and 3 due to the absence of senators; to be seated at the next Senate meeting.**
 - a. **Senator Walton moves** to amend lines 2 and 3.
 - iii. **Speaker Thomas entertains a call to question.**

- a. **Senator Walton calls to question, seconded by Senator DeHart.**
 - b. **Motion passes. 19 Votes For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions.**
- c. **Seating of New Members of the Senate**
 - i. **Due to the scraping of the current bill, Senator Jones will rewrite the bill, immediately following this adjournment, to be read as: “Whereas, due to a vacancy in the College of Arts, and due to the resignation of Danielle Ellington-Myles from the College of Arts, and whereas, a seat is now open in the College of the Arts and never filled after the resignation of Danielle Ellington-Myles it should therefore be enacted by the Atlanta Campus Senate of the Student Government Association of Georgia State University that, Tyson Stokes, be seated as an Undergraduate Senator for the College of Arts. This legislation shall take effect immediately upon passage by the Student Government Association for the welfare of the students requiring it.”**
 - a. **Senator Stokes,** is a Film and Media Major. Spent a lot of time supporting other candidates and asks for their patience, understanding, and kindness as he walks alongside them. With that he hopes to make Georgia State a better place for everyone.
 - ii. **Speaker Thomas entertains a call to question.**
 - a. **Senator Walton calls to question, seconded by Senator Abraham.**
 - b. **Motion passes. 19 Votes For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions.**
- d. **All members who have been seated since August 10th meeting are sworn in by SJB Liaison Dawnyale Allen.**

VI. **Executive Cabinet Reports**

- a. **Communications Director Malbrough:** Communications Committee has come to an agreement with Panther Report News to co-produce a web series of student talking to SGA Representatives, it’s going to be called “Office Hours.” It will have students from different groups come talk about their experience as Georgia State Panthers. First five episodes are First Generation Students hosted by President Mejia, LGBTQI+ Students hosted by Speaker Thomas, Muslim Students hosted by EVP Habibur Rahman and EVP Henry, Latinx Students hosted by President Mejia, and a pending episode focused on Greeks. Senators can put in requests that can be used for Season 2. Also, producing web series with Title IX Office to give students safety tips. Director Malbrough just came back from a meeting with Representatives from the State House and they are open to having a special meeting for an Atlanta or University-Wide meetings at the State house in one of their committee rooms. They have offered to fully pay for a reception with GSU SGA members and elected officials, this does include GSU Alumni. Any suggestions please contact Director Malbrough.
- b. **Finance Director Velazquez:** Director Velazquez is looking for Senators to join his Finance Committee. His committee will meet on Tuesdays from 2-3:30 pm. As a committee they will look at conference travel grants, requests for missed and newly chartered organizations, and makes sure that SGA does not violate and financial policies. Will be working towards improving the financial literacy here at

Georgia State and seek to make the university and SGA more fiscally responsible which includes going green efforts. Director Velazquez also demonstrates how to view the budgets that are posted for officers to see how or where the money is going.

- c. **Speaker of the Senate Report:** Thanks Senators for attendance. Speaker Thomas discuss' unity. Urges senator to make an informed decision and to remember that their constituents may have elected you to vote on things a certain way. If Senators are concerned on how to make a motion, there are notes placed on the back of the placards to assist you.

VII. **Two Minute Speeches by members of the Senate.**

- a. **Senator Walker:** Introduces himself to the senate. He is a Graduate student, working on his Masters in Communication. Does a lot of producing for GSU TV and one of the shows he did received two Southeast Emmy Awards. Wants to offer them organizational and procedural help. Had a hand in writing the bylaws for the State Democratic Party and knows Robert's Rules very well.

VIII. **SGA Senate Committee Reports**

- a. **Academic Affairs Chair Senator Walton:** Main goal is to have the best academics and to fight for the students. His committee will meet on Fridays. Those who signed up at the retreat were sent an email and should respond to the email by Friday. Working on speed of Financial Aid and breaking down the usage of the tools offered by Financial Aid. Also working on improving the relationship between Advisors and Students and getting them to see their advisors.
- b. **Student Engagement Chair Senator Abraham:** Has been working on a partnership between Civic Engagement, Spotlight and PAC on the Perimeter Campus and SGA, so Homecoming events are in the works. If you are in the need of volunteer hours, we are getting a beautification process started for the campus. For more information, join the Student Engagement Committee. SGA will be partnering with the Athletics Department. Senators should respond to messages in regards to schedules so she can begin to schedule meetings.
- c. **Student Services Committee Chair Senator Tshizubu:** Focus is on the GSUAPP. Working with the counseling center, to work on a way that students don't have to physically show up to see an Advisor or a Counselor. He has done his research and cannot find out who actually runs the GSUAPP but intends on finding a Computer Science major that can help him develop a program that is better suited for the students.
- d. **Vacancy Report Speaker Pro Tempore Jhane Jones:** There are currently 5 vacancies in the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Robinson College of Business, College of Education, School of Nursing, and College of A. Young Policy Studies. Meetings will be as needed as hopes are to fill positions with the month. Requests that Senators respond to emails.

IX. **University Senate Committee Reports**

- a. **President Mejia** reminds senators that if they did sign up for a University Senate Committee to attend because you will receive points for the absence. Went to the Project Management Department meeting and they discussed getting a new

classroom building behind the College of Law in the next four years. The projected end date for Kell Hall Demolition is Spring 2020 and various renovations to classrooms on the Perimeter Campus.

- X. **Advisor Sutton Report:** Has created lounge space further into the office for students that want to have conversations so that students who are visiting the SGA office for testing supplies are not intimidated by the commotion going on. This year will be focused on engagement and will be sending out over 800 emails to interested transfer and new students in hopes of getting new applications for the liaison roles as well as getting people on the committees.
- XI. **Speaker Thomas opens the floor for comments.**
 - a. **Senator Le addressed Senator Tshizubu** regarding maybe using Navigate as a foundation for an app to improve on for students or that students do not utilize. **Senator Mai** includes that there are various apps the Robinson College of Business uses and will provide him with contact information to help in his endeavors.
 - b. **Senator Walton** discusses his want to bring Kappa Alpha Psi back and would love the support of his fellow Senators.
 - c. **President Mejia** asks that Senators try to make as many tabling events as possible so that they can be properly represented and actively involved.
- XII. **Executive Vice President Report:** Recognizes Senator Tshizubu for going above and beyond by attending to a student who was going through a crisis and then referred that student to the correct services to help that individual. He is working on a Government and Relations Ad Hoc Committee to lobby on behalf of the students. There will be two levels, Atlanta and University-Wide to deal with their respective issues. Hopes to have legislation ready by next senate meeting. Encourages Senators to join that committee. They are working to create a commuter meal plan that will adhere to commuter students by allowing them to eat at the dining halls. He is working with the Office of Leadership to increase student engagement, which includes engaging Greek Life. Lastly, working on QPR training with the Counseling Center. Encourages all Senators to be trained. Commends all officers that came over the summer and tabled. Any questions, comments, or concerns feel free to come see him during his office hours or message him.
- XIII. **Closing Call of Roll: Senate Clerk Dankwa**
- XIV. (Absent: Senators Walker, Cedric Jackson, and Milani)
- XV. **Adjournment:**
 - a. **Speaker Thomas entertains** motion to adjourn meeting and reconvene on September 12, 2019 at 7:15PM Student Center West RM 466.
 - b. **Senator Walton motions** to adjourn meeting, seconded by **Senator Mai**.
 - c. Meeting is adjourned at 8:31pm, August 29, 2019.