

University-Wide Senate Meeting

Minutes

Date: Friday, January 10, 2020

Time: 4:30 P.M.

Location: Newton Campus, 2N 1100 239 Cedar Ln., Covington, GA 30014

- I. Call to Order by President Mejia (**Promptly at 4:30 PM**)
- II. Opening Call of the Roll / Determination of Quorum
 - a. Quorum was achieved. 18 voting senators present.
- III. Reading and approval of the minutes from the previous meeting
- IV. Special Orders (Appointments/Charters)
 - a. *90-USO-CL-08: Dunwoody Seating Bill*
 - i. Senator Sirrus Darr was introduced and sworn in as a Senator on the Dunwoody Campus
 - ii. The bill passes with 18 in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions
 - b. *90-USO-RQ-01: Constitutional Referendum* - presented by Terry Fye
 - i. The main changes of the Alpharetta Referendum would change the University Wide Senate from 46 to 31. The committee encountered an issue with the legislation, based on the language of the referendum, would consist of the Atlanta campus senate of 16 members.
 - ii. The phrase “Campus, College or School” in the Constitution ensure they have at least 2 senators. This vocabulary placed the Atlanta Campus Senate in a bind which would not allow them to properly represent the 33,000 students on the Atlanta Campus.
 - iii. The Bylaws Committee was not able to properly review and decide on the bill and therefore, it died in committee. They then introduced a new bill 90-USO-RQ-01, which would clarify the language of The Constitution to allow the representation of the 33,000 Atlanta students.
 - iv. Senator Fye moves to adding the legislation to the agenda, seconded by Senator Cole.
 1. Motion passes with 13 in favor.
 - v. Senator Fye moves to forgo the first reading and moves straight into discussion for 10 minutes, seconded by Senator Cole.
 1. Motion passes with 16 in favor, 0 against, 3 abstentions
 - vi. Senator Fye requests all questions be directed to him, as the Chair of the Bylaws Committee. He clarifies that the bill will allow the Atlanta Senator the freedom to choose as many senators as they deem fit, based on population. They very well may go back to 31 senators at any administration.
 - vii. Point of inquiry made by **Senator ___** “Are you referring to the University-Wide Senate or their Campus senate?” Senator Fye clarifies it is pertaining to the campus senate. It will not take away the Atlanta Senates’ freedom to choose the amount of senators.
 - viii. President Mejia clarifies the voting members of the U-Wide senate will differ as the population changes on the campuses. It will not affect the amount of senators on each individual campus.
 - ix. Point of Inquiry made by Senator Abraham, “Who has the right to select which Senators will be allowed to sit on the University-Wide Senate, and will that position be the same on all campuses?” Senator Fye states that will fall on the Speaker of each campus because the Speaker works closely with all the senators

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and knows the goals of each senator, and who would be more appropriate on the University Senate vs. Campus senate.

- x. Mr. Beckwith wants to assure the University-Wide senate is a fixed number but the Atlanta Senate colleges' will be proportionate based on the previous fall enrollment. The University Senate will not change, based on the increase or decrease in population size from each campus college.
- xi. Point of Inquiry made by ____, will the Speaker be able to choose different Senators to sit on U-Wide senate for each meeting? Senator Fye states you would choose the set senators, and who will be their alternates.
- xii. Advisor Sutton reassures that there will be a declaration of who the senators will be that sit on the U-Wide senate and that does not change based on each meeting.
- xiii. Senator Walton calls the question, seconded by Senator Abraham with 16 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstentions
- xiv. Spencer DeHart motions to seek a roll call vote, **Seconded by ____**. Roll call vote does not pass with 2 in favor, 14 against, 3 abstentions
- xv. Constitutional Amendment to be placed on the Spring 2020 ballot does not pass with 10 in favor, 5 opposed, 4 abstentions.

V. Old Business - None

VI. New Business

a. *90-UWB-05: Amend WebEx Re: University-Wide – presented by Senator Fye*

- i. Gives Atlanta Campus Senators Web-Ex access for meetings happening outside their campus. If the President decides that they would like to have a meeting on a different campus, this bill allows Senators on the Atlanta Campus the ability to Web-Ex in as an option.
- ii. The option for Web-Ex was not open for Atlanta Campus Senators, and as we are all University-Wide Senators, this bill would take effect immediately upon passing.
- iii. Friendly amendment from Mr. Beckwith to fix the incorrect numbering of Section 2.
- iv. Senator DeHart calls to question, Seconded by Senator Cole.
- v. Bill passes with 15 in favor, 1 opposed, 3 abstentions.

VII. Closing Remarks

a. Comments and announcements of the officers

- i. Senator Fye: Thanks the Bylaws Committee for taking time out of their break to meet and discuss the bylaws.
- ii. EVP Turner: Thanks everyone for coming to the Newton Campus and they were happy to host us, hopefully they can have us there again.

b. Closing Call of the Roll

VIII. President's Report

- a. President Mejia wishes us the best of luck for the new coming semester.
- b. Pre-semester elections are starting and to not get burnt out.
- c. She has high hopes for everyone during the semester and for the elections

IX. Adjournment (5:39 P.M.)

- a. **We will reconvene at our next U-Wide meeting on Atlanta Campus, January 23rd, 2020 at 7:15.**