Senate Minutes

Date: September 1st, 2015
Time: 7:30pm
Location: Blazer RLC

Call to Order: The University of Alabama at Birmingham Undergraduate Student Government Association Senate Meeting is called to order at 7:30 PM on September 1st, 2015. Executive Vice President Briana Miller is presiding and Vice Chairman of the Senate Sarah Griffin is recording the minutes.

Public Forum:
1. Cara Dawn Jones
2. Chirag Patel
3. Katherine McCarty
4. Emily Neutens
5. Dasha Gubarev
6. Makenzi Esensoy
7. Timothy Smith
8. Garrett Stephens
9. Alinea Esensoy
10. Wesley Shannon

Roll Call: (quorum 51%) (18 senators must be in attendance, 34 senators total)
a. **X** legislators, we do have quorum.
b. ___ legislators, we do not have quorum.

1. Andrew Viegas
2. Baylee Gilchrist
3. Blaire Landry
4. Emilee Anders
5. Jordan Wright
6. Kevin Lee
7. Hadley Hall
8. Rachael Rainey
9. Sarah Griffin
10. Sydney Rice
11. Tamara Imam
12. Tia Davis
13. Tiffany Colburn
14. Timber Wulff
15. Raniem Hajazin
16. Ryan Kalson
17. Avery Powell
18. Kasie Wright
19. Thieu Vo
20. Akash Patel
21. Lindsey Schmidt
22. Jessica Vingers
23. Gail Hoffman
24. Beau Johnson
25. Matthew Owens
26. Kayla Hazelwood
27. Erica McDonald
28. Harsh Patel
29. Kaitlyn Bailey
30. Kyndal Cheng
31. Jillian Bridges
32. Fernando Colunga
33. Nirja Gajjar

Guest Speakers: James Fowler, Director of Planning Design and Construction

Approval of Minutes: A motion is made to approve the minutes from the last meeting. The motion is properly seconded and passes.

Reports of the Executive Branch:
1. President: Garrett Stephens
   a. Farmers Market is coming to campus in mid-October.
   b. Stay on top of campus-wide committees and submitting those notes to Pooja in order for us to know what's going on.
   c. Sodexo's contract is up this year and forums will be this semester to allow students to voice opinions in October and by February, a new firm will be selected.
   d. The Student Referendum is still ongoing. The Student Fee aspect of the plan was shot down by the Board of Trustees so now a new strategy is in place to create a campus wide referendum that the whole campus will participate in and vote on.
   e. Director of Student Issues is creating a survey for topics that affect most students.
2. Executive Vice President: Briana Miller
   a. Senators may be asked to table and work polling stations for the campus-wide vote. It is important for the vote to come back yes.
3. Vice President of Communications: Alinea Esensoy
   a. Getting every kind of student voting is important and we all should lend a hand.
4. Vice President of Finance: Chirag Patel
   a. Executive is looking for a director of Community Engagement. One community service event will be each month.
5. Vice President of Student Services: Catherine McCarty
   a. None.
6. Chief of Staff: Weslie Shannon
   a. Look out for programming and be intentional on social media about promoting and keeping up momentum for student programs.
7. Freshman Forum Director: Timothy Smith
Applications for Freshman Forum are due Wednesday by 11:45pm and we are excited to meet our new members.

Reports of the Judicial Branch:
1. Chief Justice of the Student Court:
   a. None
2. Attorney General
   a. None
3. Student Advocate
   a. None

Reports of the Legislative:
1. Internship Coordinator:
   a. None.

School Reports:
1. College of Arts and Sciences
   a. We talked about what we accomplished last semester and some new plans about the new semester.
2. School of Business
   a. Got to know each other and all the members who were at the retreat.
3. School of Education
   a. We will be meeting with our Dean sometime in the next week.
4. School of Engineering
   a. We are looking to get the keys for the suggestion boxes from the previous senators.
5. School of Health Professions
   a. Got to know members and want to get the BMD and other majors together and let them know more about USGA.
6. School of Public Health
   a. Getting amenities in the building such as recycling bins, water bottle stations, etc.
7. School of Nursing
   a. Getting the people in the school of nursing to learn more about USGA and to get more seats filled.

Committee Reports:
1. Dining Committee Chairperson
   a. I will be meeting with dining throughout the semester and please fill out the Dining survey that is out on Blazernet.
2. Housing and Campus Planning Committee Chairperson
   a. We went over a lot of ideas that we want to get started this semester. We met at the retreat but we want to get everyone’s input.
3. Academics Committee Chairperson
   a. We have discussed that FYE courses are going to be a great way to get freshmen involved and teach them about USGA and how they can contact anyone within USGA.
4. Athletics Committee Chairperson
   a. We want to make sure all that athletics is doing is available for all students to be a part of.

Old Business:
1. None.

New Business:
1. None.

Announcements:
1. USGA Advisor
2. New Positions
3. Student Services Candyland: This will be sort of a Fall Festival type event, and we need Senators to sign up to volunteer their time. You get to dress up and will receive dinner and a t-shirt. It will be Monday, October 19th from 5-8pm.
4. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 8th, in Heritage Hall room 124.

Emily Neutens, USGA Advisor: College Colors Day is this Friday, be sure to represent your school. UAB Night at the Museum is also tomorrow night at 4pm-8pm, buses will be available, and there will be food and a good time visiting the museum. Please make an effort to attend all sporting events around campus and reach out to me if you need help with anything.

Adjournment: A motion is made to adjourn the meeting. The motion is properly seconded and passes. This meeting of the UAB Undergraduate Student Government Association Senate is adjourned at 8:42 PM.