



Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Student Senate

TAMUCC SGA Meeting Minutes 2/5/18

- I. Call to Order 5:15 PM**
- II. Roll Call** Justin Bustos, Friederike Davis, Connor Allen, Sara Elharoun, Joyce Paez, Kayla Weeks, Richard Torres, Alexandra Phongsavone, Emerald Rodriguez, Clayton Swift, Garrett Ransom, Andrea Gilson, Olumide Adeoye, Maria Beauford, Antonio Sanchez, Katie Seabolt, Lisa, Perez and Dr. Don Albrecht
- III. Islander Pledge**
- IV. Guest Introductions - None**
- V. Approval of Minutes**
 - i. January 29th
 - Dr. Perez and Speaker Allen had some minor edits needed to be made to the minutes.
 - Vice President Davis will apply the edits and resend out the updated version of the minutes. - - - The minutes will be voted on at next week's Senate meeting.
- VI. Treasurer's Report**
 - The only transaction to hit the account was for the second order of polos for \$868.00
- VII. President's Report**
 - i. Spring Town Hall
 - President Bustos still needs volunteers to help give the OER presentation at the various Town Hall sessions.
 - President Bustos also asked for members to help promote the event.
 - The event will consist of the OER Presentation followed by a Q&A then the floor will be opened to address any other student issues/concerns.
 - ii. Secretary Update
 - President Bustos and Vice President Davis held interviews and chose a final applicant but decided not to move forward.
 - The position can either be a leadership position or a paid position, three hours per week.
 - Dr. Perez suggested recommending those who will be at the University for a while instead of someone graduating this semester because then the search will have to start all over again.
 - The position is still open, and anyone interested is asked to contact President Bustos.
 - iii. Student Fee Advisory Committee
 - President Bustos tried to recruit members to fill the student representative positions on the Student Fee Advisory Committee.
 - The requirement is being able to meet from 2-3:30 on Fridays from Mid-February to April and the appointment is a two-year term.
 - The committee oversees the allocations of funds from student fees.
 - There is a total of five student representative positions. President Bustos and Speaker Allen will be fulfilling two of the five spots.
 - President Bustos must submit the names of the student representatives by February 14th. Anyone interested are asked to contact President Bustos.
- VIII. Vice President's Report**
 - i. Environmental Affairs Committee appointment



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- Vice President Davis interviewed two applicants last week with President Bustos and made a decision.
- Vice President Davis introduced her appointment of Elise Rother for the Environmental Affairs Chair position.
- Elise Rother couldn't attend because of a time conflict with one of her classes. Vice President Davis showed the video Elise recorded of herself to address the Senate as well as passed out the copies of her resume and Committee Chair application to the Senate.
- Discussion was held regarding the appointment.
- Senator Seabolt motioned to approve the appointment which was seconded by Senator Weeks.
- The Senators voted and 2/3 majority approval was met resulting in the appointment being approved.

ii. SGA Homecoming Events

- Homecoming week is upon us. Penny Wars will occur on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 6-7th from 11AM-2PM and Friday Fiesta will occur on Friday, February 9th from 3:30-6:30 PM.
- Vice President Davis will be sending out a doodle to recruit help with tabling for Penny Wars, counting the funds collected after each day of Penny Wars and to help with Friday Fiesta.
- Vice President Davis submitted SGA's application for the Spirit Competition on Wednesday, January 31st.
- A total of nine members signed up for our team to represent SGA in the Spirit Competition.
- Vice President Davis thanked Co-Chairs Lesure and Torres as well as Senator Ransom for their assistance with SGA's poster for the Spirit Competition. It was a quick turnaround to have the poster decorated and hung up by Monday, February 5th but they were able to complete it.

iii. Committee on Committees report

- Vice President met with the committee on Monday, February 5th at 9-10 AM.
- The committee sent out a survey to all the University Wide Committees to gauge feedback regarding how often the committees are meeting, are they keeping minutes of their meetings, are they fulfilling their purpose/mission statement, etc.
- The committee will be analyzing the results of the survey and will take the feedback into consideration when reviewing each committee. This will be an ongoing project for the next two years.

IX. Chief Justice's Report

i. Parking Appeals – Total: 4

- Chief Justice Elharoun met with associate justices last week.
- Of the 4 appeals, one was denied and three were approved.

ii. Associate Justice Appointment

- Chief Justice Elharoun and Vice President Davis interviewed an applicant for the vacant associate justice position last week.
- Chief Justice Elharoun introduced her appointment of Alexis Pitcock for the associate justice position.
- Alexis Pitcock introduced herself to the Senate and answered questions regarding her background knowledge of the position and time management skills.
- Discussion was held regarding the appointment.
- Senator Torres motioned to approve the appointment which was seconded by Senator Gilson.
- The Senators voted and 2/3 majority approval was met resulting in the appointment being approved.

X. Speaker's Report - None



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XI. Senator Reports

- i. College of Liberal Arts
 - Senator Scheick and Senator Weeks met with Dr. Hartlaub last week on January 31st at 3:30 PM.
 - There was an issue regarding the smoking area near the Center for the Arts. Students moved the smoking stand from the designated smoking area to make it more convenient for them, but the situation was addressed and the smoking stand was returned to its original location.
 - In the College of Liberal Arts there are two type of scholarship opportunities, regular and endowed. Senator Weeks and Senator Scheick's concern was the scholarship information is not communicated efficiently to the students.
 - The College of Liberal Arts were losing endowed scholarship funds because they were unable to fulfill the scholarship criteria because it was too narrow. Dr. Hartlaub has been in contact with the scholarship office to communicate the issue with the scholarship donors to see if the criteria could be changed.
 - Dr. Hartlaub asked for a status update regarding the progress of the smoke free initiative.
- ii. Athletics Senator
 - Senator Seabolt met with Scott Lazenby on February 2nd at 9:00 AM.
 - Scott Lazenby wants representatives from the Spirit and Traditions Committee to work with the Athletics marketing team to help promote their events so the information can be seen on the Athletics social media and reach a broader audience. Co-Chairs Lesure and Torres are open to the idea.
 - Both Mens and Womens Basketball Team each have four home games left.
 - Baseball season will be starting soon and a few upcoming game dates include: the weekend of February 23rd-25th v. Mississippi State, Tuesday, March 27th v. TAMU, and Tuesday, April 3rd v. UT.
 - Athletics is building a deck in the outer baseball field and hopes the project to be completed within the upcoming weeks. Athletics would like for SGA to pick three dates after Spring Break as options to attend a game and utilize the deck to showcase to students that it's a place to hang out at to watch the games.
 - Scott Lazenby is interested in coming to speak at an upcoming SGA meeting and Senator Seabolt offered to coordinate scheduling his appearance with President Bustos.

XII. Committee Reports - None

XIII. Old Business

- i. S.B. 27-3 Judicial Board Act
 - Speaker Allen read the amendments he made aloud to the Senate.
 - Senator Beauford motioned to remove it from the table which was seconded by Senator Weeks.
 - The Senate voted and the motion passed resulting in it being removed the table.
 - Senator Seabolt moved to amend the bill to read with the new amendments Speaker Allen introduced to the Senate which was seconded by Senator Ransom.
 - Discussion was held regarding the bill.
 - Senator Sanchez voiced his concern of removing Judicial Review. He suggested it still be kept but not have the ruling of the hearing recorded in the Constitution and By-Laws.
 - Speaker Allen explained his reasoning for removing Judicial Review.



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- Chief Justice Elharoun expressed her concern with the appointment power being transferred from the Chief Justice to the President regarding the associate justice appointments. She believed the Chief Justice should continue to appoint the associate justices because the Chief Justice works with them the most.
- Speaker Allen explained his reasoning for changing the appointment power from the Chief Justice to the President.
- Senator Haire asked for clarification regarding the selection process for the Chief Justice.
- Senator Ransom proposed including the Chief Justice in the selection process so they have a say but agrees with Speaker Allen in regards to the incoming President having the final say in appointing the associate justices.
- Vice President Davis expressed her concern regarding if the President were to appoint the associate justices then whoever is appointed and if the Chief Justice does not agree with the decision then they are stuck working with the person for the remainder of their term.
- Senator Weeks asked for clarification regarding if the bill explains the selection process for appointing associate justices like it states for the Chief Justice. Speaker Allen explained it does not.
- Senator Weeks proposed adding in the same language it states regarding the selection process for the Chief Justice for the associate justices.
- Senator Seabolt motioned to amend the resolution to reflect this which was seconded by Senator Ransom. The Senators voted and the motion passed resulting in the amendment being approved.
- Senator Sanchez reiterated his concern the bill addresses regarding Judicial Review. Speaker Allen clarified the Judicial Board would still be in charge of overseeing any hearings. The thing changing with the bill is that the decision of any ruling would not be recorded in the Constitution and By-Laws which is currently required but no Chief Justice has done so.
- Senator Weeks motioned to pass the bill which was seconded by Senator Beauford.
- The Senate voted and the motion was passed resulting in discussion being ended.
- The Senate voted again and 2/3 majority approval was met resulting in the adoption of the resolution.

IV. New Business

- ii. S.R. 27-8 Discrimination Resolution
 - Senator Ransom introduced Senator Scheick's bill which was co-sponsored by himself.
 - Senator Ransom read the bill out loud to the Senate.
 - Senator Sanchez motioned to approve the resolution which was seconded by Senator Beauford. - Discussion was held regarding the bill.
 - Senator Haire asked why faculty and staff were crossed out of the resolution. Senator Ransom explained SGA representatives are not elected to represent those individuals.
 - Senator Adeoye asked about the last section of the resolution regarding where it was going to be publicized at. He proposed to add to the distribution list to include campus notice boards.
 - Dr. Albrecht pointed out that throughout the resolution at times hate speech is mentioned while other times hate crimes is used. He mentioned the incident with the flyers last week was an example of hate speech.
 - Senator Weeks motioned to amend the resolution by changing "hate crimes" to read "hate crimes or hate speech" and adding Island Waves Student Newspaper to the distribution list which was seconded by Senator Sanchez.



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- The Senate voted and the motion passed resulting in the amendments being approved.
- Senator Seabolt pointed out the inconsistency at the end of both sections Whereas 1 and Whereas 2 where it list “does not tolerate discrimination regardless of gender, race....”
- Dr. Albrecht mentioned the A&M system uses more than the four listed and suggested adding in the list the A&M system uses.
- Senator Seabolt motioned to amend the resolution to say on section Whereas 2 by adding towards the end: “regardless of race, gender, sexuality, or disability” so it is consistent with what is listed as the end of section Whereas 1. This motioned was seconded by Senator Lara.
- The Senate voted and the motion passed resulting in the amendment being approved. \- Senator Haire suggested adding the list the A&M system uses so it covers any issue that may occur in the future.
- Senator Ransom motioned to table the resolution which was seconded by Senator Weeks.
- The Senate voted and the motion passed resulting in the resolution being tabled.
- iii. S.R. 27-9 Spirit Day Resolution
- Speaker Allen introduced the resolution which is co-sponsored by Senator Torres.
- Speaker Allen read the resolution aloud to the Senate.
- Senator Seabolt motioned to approve the resolution what was seconded by Senator Beauford
- Discussion was held regarding the resolution.
- Senator Lara expressed her concern that it may dry out the spirit if done on a weekly basis and proposed to have it monthly.
- Senator Beauford offered her support for having it on a weekly basis while Senator Adeoye agreed with Senator Lara on having it on a monthly basis.
- Dr. Perez mentioned that even though SGA supports it, it is optional for students to participate. There are other universities throughout the country that do it on a weekly basis.
- Co-Chair Lesure mentioned it would be good for weekly but to designate a specific day for students to wear school colors.
- Senator Torres offered to pick a particular day such as Tuesday and call it Blue Days Tuesdays. - Dr. Perez mentioned it will take time to create the culture and suggested it would be beneficial to identity an actual day.
- Co-Chair Lesure mentioned to provide a reason for picking a particular day.
- Senator Beauford motioned to amend the resolution by adding the line “Blue Days Tuesdays” which was seconded by Senator Adeoye.
- The Senate voted and the motion passed resulting in the resolution being amended.
- Senator Weeks motioned to end debate which was seconded by Senator Beauford. The Senate voted and the motion passed, ending debate.
- Senator Weeks motioned to vote on the resolution what was seconded on Senator Beauford.
- The Senate voted and 2/3 majority was met resulting in the resolution being adopted.
- iv. S.R. 27-10 Ennis Joslin Nile Intersection Resolution
- Speaker Allen introduced the resolution which is co-sponsored by Senator Weeks.
- Speaker Allen read the resolution aloud to the Senate.
- Senator Weeks motioned to approve the resolution which was seconded by Senator Beauford.
- Discussion was held regarding the resolution.



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- Dr. Albrecht brought up the point that Ennis is a state highway and Corpus Christi has no authority.
- Speaker Allen showed a satellite view of the streets. Senator Weeks explained the streets and the traffic issues resulting from the current set up and how by making the other lane an additional turning lane will help resolve them.
- Chief Justice Elharoun mentioned another area with a similar problem. On Ennis and Ocean Drive, there is a traffic light that never turns red and poses a safety issue for students crossing.
- Senator Ransom motioned to add the change "Texas Highway Department in the City of Corpus Christi" which was seconded by Senator Lara.
- The Senate voted and the motion passed resulting in the amendments being approved.
- President Bustos and Dr. Quintanilla talked about this issue. President Bustos mentioned UPD did a study and have the analytics regarding how many cars turn in each direction.
- No other discussions were made so Speaker Allen ended debate.
- The Senate voted and 2/3 majority was met resulting in the resolution being adopted.
 - v. S.B. 27-4 Voter Intimidation Act
- Speaker Allen introduced the resolution which is co-sponsored by Senator Ransom.
- Speaker Allen read the resolution aloud to the Senate.
- Senator Beauford motioned to approve the resolution which was seconded by Senator Lara.
- Since time was running short, Speaker Allen proposed tabling it until next week.
- Senator Ransom motioned to table the resolution which was seconded by Senator Weeks.
- The Senate voted and the motion passed resulting in the resolution being tabled.

X. Advisor's Report

- Dr. Perez was approached by Jaime Ladarcy, assistant Vice-president of Development.
- Buck Day Commission has contacted the University regarding having a College Night at this year's Buck Day Rodeo. They want to partner with the university in hopes to increase the number of attendees.
- Buck Day Rodeo is an annual event that occurs Late April to May and has various festivities.
- The proposed date to host college night is the same day of the SGA Banquet, April 28th.
- The goal is to gather student feedback regarding if they would be willingly to attend the event and if so what would attract them. Anyone with any feedback is asked to contact Dr. Perez.
- Buck Day is a sponsorship of scholarships for the university.

XI. Open Forum

- Senator Ransom motioned to remove S.R. 27-8 from the table which was seconded by Senator Beauford.
- The Senate voted and the motion did not pass resulting in the amendment remaining tabled.

XII. Announcements (General)

- a. Islander Leadership Conference: Be an Inclusive Islander on Saturday, February 17th from 9:30-4 PM

- XIII. **Final Roll Call** Justin Bustos, Friederike Davis, Connor Allen, Sara Elharoun, Richard Torres, Emerald Rodriguez, Clayton Swift, Garrett Ransom, Olumide Adeoye, Maria Beauford, Antonio Sanchez, Katie Seabolt, Haylee Haire, Lisa, Perez and Dr. Don Albrecht

XIV. Adjournment 6:47 PM