



Minutes

Oakland University Student Congress
Wolf/Williford Administration
Legislative Body Meeting Agenda
Oakland Room, Oakland Center
Monday, October 15th, 2012
4:00 P.M.

- I. **Call to order:** 4:00pm
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Roll Call:** Quorum met.
- IV. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 1st, 2012:** Approved.
- V. **Comments from the Gallery**

- a. Mr. Nicholas Desrochers came forward to ask the members of Student Congress about ideas to make the Bear Bus program more beneficial to students. He stated that he also spoke to RHA leadership for ideas and he wanted to be sure to come to OUSC as well. Ms. Samantha Wolf thanked Mr. Desrochers for attending and expressed that she wanted more initiatives to increase the amount of people riding the buses. Legislator Darius Thompson asked Mr. Desrochers about hands free options for drivers so that they can answer the Bear Bus or Shuttle phones while driving. Miss Michelle Alwardt asked Mr. Desrochers if Bear Buses that can stop if a student misses the bus and waves to try to get the bus to stop. Mr. Desrochers said that currently, buses and shuttles are not allowed for safety reasons. Mr. Desrochers also stated that Housing tries to make the bus locations known via an application or website. He is also trying to instate an application where students will be able to look and see exactly where the buses are. Mr. Desrochers does not want to set actual stop times for the stops because he does not want students to expect a bus at one time and have traffic affect that time. Legislator Wes Gamble asked about signage for the buses. Gamble wants stops to be marked on the directories that are all over campus. Mr. Desrochers said that there are maps with the locations and Housing is also ordering new signs for the Bear Bus that will be highly visible. The Bear Bus is also heavily relying on the website. Legislator Natalie Juronoc stated she thought that the buses stopping for roughly five minutes at each stop was irrelevant. She also asked how many buses are running at a time. Mr. Desrochers said all four buses are not running at once because of "special runs" for other reasons. He is also looking at Bear Bus numbers to help make future decisions. Juronoc also added that she not think stops at Beacon Hill and Greek Row is unnecessary because those students chose to live off campus. Mr. Desrochers stated that he makes those decisions based on what students say they want. He urged Juronoc to go to OUSC Leadership so when there are Bear Bus meetings, her voice can be heard. Legislator Andre Mitchell stated that he really appreciated the new special routes like the recent trip to Taco Bell. Mr. Desrochers said that the route was very successful with 140 riders within two hours. Every response that the Bear Bus team gets, he makes sure that those suggestions are not overlooked. Mr. Desrochers was very enthusiastic and extremely helpful. Ms. Amera Fattah suggested to OUSC and Desrochers to instate a frequency cards for riders. She also told Legislator Gamble that they do not have a list of stops because if stops change, it's more cost efficient to not have signage except marking the stops, not listing the route. In response to Legislator Juronoc's comment, Ms. Fattah stated that Greek Row is a part of OU's campus. It is also just to make a greener campus and to alleviate the parking issues. The Beacon Hill stop also aided in this. In response to Legislator Andre Mitchell, she stated that in the summer when she met with common marketing they said that the Bear Bus tracking should be integrated with the new My Sail application. Legislator Nusrat Zaman suggested dividing up campus for the bus routes. Mr. Desrochers stated that the buses go in opposite directions and sometimes they simply intersect. For instance, if one is waiting at Hamlin Circle and he/she desires to go to the Oakland Center, it does not make sense to have buses going in the same direction. Mr. Ethan Scott asked about helping distinguish phone numbers. There are four numbers and instead of students having to call all four numbers to find the bus. Mr. Desrocher said that the off campus routes are vans, and on campus are the shuttles. Legislator Maria Willett asked if the Bear Bus had a facebook. Mr. Desrochers said they did not, but they did have a twitter. Housing is planning to make one but they wish to have a plan first. Willett also suggested a card to pass out. Mr. Desrochers stated that although it is a good idea, this program is continuing to grow rapidly and they do not want to print information that is constantly changing. Legislator Josh Nuss just expressed his appreciation for the stops off campus as he has had a lot of experience himself not being able to get around.
- b. Mr. Louie expressed his opinion of having a Blue Light available near the overflow lots for safety measures. Legislator Darias Thompson expressed her agreement. She had a similar situation where she needed a police man or ambulance immediately and she had to run very far for a blue light. Ms. Amera Fattah stated that she would take it up with Chief Lucido of OUPD.

VI. **Old Business**

- a. **C.B. 13-02 Trip to Detroit Amendment Bill**, *presented by Legislator James Shermetaro*
- i. Legislator James Shermetaro spoke on behalf of the bill. The bill is meant to add \$952 to the fund for the trip to Detroit to make the visit more interactive. It would include a tour and hands on experience at several buildings. Legislator Andre Mitchell asked about the process of decision making for these funds. Ms. Maria Arellano responded to this. She wanted to create a new experience. She wanted a contrast when it comes to the art seen by students on the trip, for example the Keidelberg Project and the Guardian Building. Legislator Maria Willett asked Ms. Arellano how many could attend this trip, and her answer was fifty-six. Legislator Wesley Gamble motioned to change the amount to \$1,000; Legislator James Shermetaro accepted the friendly amendment. Legislator Natalie Juronoc asked how long the stop at the Eastern Market would be and Ms. Arellano said that the stop would be ninety minutes long. Legislator Natalie Juronoc asked if OUSC was able to attend and Ms. Arellano said they were definitely allowed to attend.
 - ii. Vote: Approved.

VII. **New Business**

- a. Approval of SPB Executive Board Member: Ms. Carin Inglis, Mainstage Director, *presented by Ms. Samantha Wolf*
- i. Ms. Samantha Wolf said that the Mainstage Director was dismissed because he/she was not attending executive board meetings and holding office hours. The order was effective immediately. Mr. Nicholas McCormick sent a letter on Ms. Inglis' behalf that was read by Ms. Wolf. He stated that she is enthusiastic and would be a great addition to SPB. Ms. Inglis then spoke on her own behalf. She stated that she was on a committee last year and she knows that she will put in a lot of time and effort into the position. Ms. Amara Fattah also stated that Ms. Inglis is a positive addition with a great attitude. Legislators Ploe and Namou also seconded Ms. Fattah's sentiments. Ms. Michelle Alwardt asked Ms. Inglis if she had any ideas for the position. Ms. Inglis wanted to get in touch with the students to do what they wanted. Legislator Blake Williams asked Ms. Inglis if she is planning on having a spring concert. She said that she does plan to have one.
 - ii. Vote: Approved.
- b. Approval of New Legislator: Kathleen Peterson, *presented by Samantha Wolf*
- i. Discussion: Ms. Peterson spoke on her own behalf. Ms. Peterson is also a member of Phi Sigma Sigma, a tutor in North Foundation in sign language and history. She is also on the Meadowbrooke Ball committee. She has many things that interest her in Congress as opposed to just one issue. Mr. Andre Mitchell also spoke on Ms. Peterson's behalf. He stated that she is driven and passionate about OUSC. Ms. Emily Collins also spoke on her behalf stated that Ms. Peterson is a great person to have on OUSC who will bring a positive attitude to OUSC. Legislators Namou and Knapp and Ms. Fattah also seconded Ms. Collins' sentiments. Questions: Ms. Alwardt asked Ms. Peterson if she had the time to commit to OUSC and she said that she did. Ms. Boye asked Ms. Peterson if she had any initiatives in mind. Ms. Peterson said that she wanted to see passes at the Rec for guests.
 - ii. Vote: Approved.
- c. **C.B. 13-03 New Table Cloths**, *presented by Legislator Natalie Juronoc*
- i. Legislator Natalie Juronoc presented the bill for the first reading. She stated that having two tablecloths with two different seals was not helpful in branding OUSC. The bill requests \$490 to purchase two new tablecloths. Legislator Willett asked what OUSC would be doing with the old tablecloths and Ms. Rachel Boye stated that they would continue to use them when they can. Legislator Ploe asked Legislator Juronoc
- d. **C.B. 13-04 Women in Islam**, *presented by Legislator Nusrat Zuman*
- i. Legislator Zuman presented the bill that covers OUSC's involvement in an event put on by the Muslim Student Association. The \$350 fee would cover food and advertising for the event. Legislator Gamble inquired as to the financial stability with this event. Zuman assured Gamble that they have the funds for the event. Legislator Willett stated that technically OUSC couldn't co-sponsor because OUSC cannot allocate funds to other student organizations. Ms. Maria Arellano also told Zuman she would be helping to put on this event. Zuman stated that the President of the Muslim Student Association wanted to be sure that MSA was the host. Mr. Brandon Hanna seconded Legislator Willett's statement about co-sponsoring. Ms. Arellano told Legislator Zuman she would be happy to say that OUSC is the sponsor and still let MSA plan the event and Zuman still did not want to commit to that. Legislator Natalie Juronoc motioned to table the discussion and her motion was seconded and approved.

- e. **C.B. 13-05 Venetian Masquerade**, *presented by Legislator James Shermetaro*
 - i. The purpose of this bill is to request \$2500 for an event that will serve as a Italian cultural immersion event. Legislator Wes Gamble asked Ms. Arellano about why this was not originally in her budget. Ms. Arellano stated that this event includes a co-sponsorship. Mr. Scott Shermetaro also stated that these events are coming up through discussions about what the student body wants. He also added that some of it could come from her original budget where she saved money and not just from uncategorized. Ms. Maria Willett asked who her co-sponsor was and Ms. Arellano replied with SPB. Ms. Arellano stated that the event is for October 25th.
- f. **C.B. 13-06 Pride Packs**, *presented by Legislator Maria Willett*
 - i. Legislator Willett read the bill and stated that this bill is for the purpose of sending out Pride Packs to businesses nearby school to increase school pride. Legislator Willett yielded all questions to Ms. Fattah. This is the first reading of the bill.
- g. **C.B. 13-07 SAM Dues**, *presented by Legislator Maria Willett*
 - i. Legislator Willett spoke about the bill. She stated that the bill was written in order to increase the amount of money that OUSC budgets for SAM Conference dues. These dues are important to OUSC to ensure that OUSC maintains its membership in the organization. This was the first reading of the bill.

VIII. Discussion Topics

- a. *Discussion Topics related to Comments from the Gallery Related to Business of the Day, Guest Speakers, & submitted Statements of Student Concern*
 - i. Ms. Fattah had several issuances from students including the automatic flushing in the bathrooms, which is seen as very inefficient and unnecessary, iPhone syncing with OU email, and students not having a car on campus. She is looking into all concerns.
- b. **Guest Speaker Preston Van Vilet about Corey Jackson Vigil**
 - i. Mr. Vilet thanked Congress for the opportunity to speak about this event. Mr. Vilet stated that an OU student committed suicide on OU's campus. Mr. Vilet wants to continue the vigil. Mr. Vilet is not affiliated with any other organizations. Legislator Willett and Mr. Williford spoke to Mr. Vilet about the vigil. The vigil will be October 19th at 7pm, outside by Bear Lake if weather permits. Mr. Vilet noticed that no one was coordinating a vigil and he felt it was extremely important. GRASP, the Anti-Bullying organization and Dr. Schwartz are helping put on this event. Candles will be provided. Mr. Vilet is asking OUSC for suggestions and volunteers. Mr. Jackson's sister will hopefully be in attendance.
 - ii. Discussion: Mr. Robbie Williford thanked Mr. Vilet for coming to speak about this vigil. Mr. Ethan Scott asked about the date and Mr. Vilet repeated that the event is this Friday the 19th. Ms. Michelle Alwardt also stressed the importance of this vigil. Suicide has affected many students on campus and Mr. Jackson's suicide was a great tragedy to everyone. Mr. Brandon Hanna suggested WXOU for music if Mr. Vilet wanted music. Ms. Bumhoffer also offered RHA's support.
- c. **Absences/Legislator Duties**, *presented by Mr. Robbie Williford*
 - i. Mr. Robbie Williford reminded legislators that they need to be doing their weekly office hour and to take an active part in congress. Mr. Williford also said that being a legislator could be a stepping-stone for Executive Board. Only one legislator has approached Mr. Williford about initiatives. He also wanted to have one-on-ones with legislators. He offered his time to legislators. He wants legislators to be able to accomplish anything they want. He also stated that the ditto card is to help communication during meeting. Mr. Williford also told the legislators that the office hour sheet now has an E-Board initial section.
 - ii. Discussion: Ms. Wolf stated that every member of OUSC should be held accountable in the organization. Legislator Knapp wanted to see a greater number of responses to emails. Legislator Juronoc encouraged other legislators to approach other legislators when he/she thinks that someone is slacking. Ms. Juronoc also asked if E-Board had the authority to add an E-Board initial to the legislator office hour sheet. Mr. Williford stated that he would look into it. Ms. Alwardt also told the legislature that if someone does not want to confront someone else he/she could email Legislator Polina to put a member up for removal. Legislator Ploe stated that it currently is not in the by-laws to make it mandatory for someone to do an office hour. Mr. Nicholas McCormick stated that it is an enumerated duty so it technically can be brought up as someone not doing their duty. Legislator Andre Mitchell asked about jackets for new members so they can support OUSC publicly. He also wanted to know about the bill writing process. Mr. Williford stated that there should be a sheet of simplified Robert's Rules and that he would be more than willing to teach new members how to write bills. Mitchell

also asked about the tabling. Ms. Boye stated that from now on, every week there will be sign up sheets. Legislator Zaman announced that Monday there will be judiciary committee meetings before general body.

IX. Reports

- a. Student Body President – **Samantha Wolf**
 - i. Ms. Wolf wanted to make sure legislators were listening during meeting and preparing for meeting in order to ensure that no redundant or unnecessary questions were asked. Ms. Wolf also asked who would be interested in the Etiquette Dinner. She said the whiteboard in the conference room is finally up. Ms. Wolf has been very busy but this week will be better and she encourages others to come talk to her.
- b. Student Body Vice President – **Robbie Williford**
 - i. Mr. Williford cleared off the memory cards for the camera, which took a very long time. He wants anyone using the camera to tell him if he/she take pictures to make sure they end up where they need to be. He also said that this week they met with Dean Mac and Dean Schneider. It was a productive meeting and they both offered to come to meeting. Mr. Williford wants to see legislators dressing up professionally. Mr. Williford also wanted members to know that he is not trying to attack anyone when he brings up discussions about legislator duties.
- c. Student Activities Funding Board – **Brandon Hanna**
 - i. Not present.
- d. Student Program Board – **Nicholas McCormick**
 - i. Mr. McCormick said he had amazing attendance at his events this week for SPB including OU's Got Talent and the Space Jam movie presentation. He also did the lighting for TWLOHA and took pictures for the Paul Ryan rally. He also did lighting for the tailgate. He wants feedback about the event from the general body. He's planning winter retreat and NACA.
- e. Legislative Affairs Director – **Michelle Alwardt**
 - i. Ms. Alwardt had a presentation about the SAM conference. SAM has a new structure that makes every member apart of the Board of Directors. It holds the conference accountable. The Board oversees the voting, budget and issues that involve SAM. There are also committees including legislative research, voter registration and university affairs. The legislative research committee contacts Ms. Alwardt whenever there are issues that concern university students.
- f. Multicultural Affairs Director – **Maria Arellano**
 - i. Ms. Arellano wants anyone who owes her money to come find her after meeting so she can ship the TWLOHA items. She also asked who was interested in the Trip to Detroit.
- g. Financial Affairs Director – **Scottie Shermetaro**
 - i. We have \$14,000ish left in uncatagorized. OUSC has spent about \$20,000.
- h. Student Services Director – **Amera Fattah**
 - i. Ms. Fattah send a paper around during meeting with the final design for the One Less Tumblers. She also received \$7,000 from Dean Mac for the Pride Packs. Tomorrow is the Max Brooks event as well.
- i. Visual Communications Director – **Ethan Scott**
 - i. Mr. Scott had nothing new to report from his written report that was circulated.
- j. Marketing Director—**Rachel Boye**
 - i. Ms. Boye announced that she had a tabling sheet for everyone to sign up on for tabling this coming week.
- k. Administrative Assistant – **Emily Collins**
 - i. Ms. Collins announced that there are outings scheduled for October 26 and November 19th. She also wanted help in distributing donation letters.
- l. Advisor Report – **Allison Webster**
 - i. Ms. Webster stated that this week was very busy. SAFB is also looking for committee members.
- m. *Questions related to Executive Reports*
 - i. Legislator Ploe told Ms. Collins to switch the date for the November 19th outing because it is the same day as an SPB event. She also asked why E-Board has reports. Ms. Wolf said not all legislators read reports and also it is for the gallery.

X. Updates

- a. Steering Committee – Lauren Tibbits

- i. Ms. Tibbits asked all legislators to get bills to her by Saturdays at 12pm. She also told the general body that when the legislature votes to approve additions to the agenda it basically makes her job pointless. She asked the legislators vote with her not to approve additions.
 - b. Judiciary Committee – Aws Polina
 - i. Not present.
 - c. Scholarship Committee – Maria Willett
 - i. Not present.
 - d. Research and Review Committee – Patricia Rockentine
 - i. Legislator Rockentine is still looking for committee members. She also is trying to come up with ideas for educating new legislators.
 - e. Congressional Archivist – Darias Thompson
 - i. Legislator Thompson had nothing new to tell the general body.
 - f. RHA Representative – Katie Bumhoffer
 - i. Ms. Bumhoffer wanted to thank OUSC for the RHA VIP seating at TWLOHA.
 - g. Tailgate Committee-Madeline Knapp
 - i. Legislator Knapp thanked everyone that helped at the tailgate.
 - h. *Questions related to Updates*
 - i. Legislator Ploe asked if the Tailgate committee would continue to be on the agenda. Ms. Wolf said it would because there is another tailgate plus homecoming.
- XI. **Comments from the gallery**
- a. None.
- XII. **Announcements**
- a. SLLB presents Max Brooks, Tuesday 16th at 7pm
 - b. Trip to Detroit, Saturday 20th.
 - c. OUSC Meetings are on Monday at 4:00 in the Oakland Room
 - d. The next OUSC Meeting will be Monday, October 23rd.
 - e. Corey Jackson Vigil is on October 19th at 7pm by Vandenberg and Bear Lake.
- XIII. **Adjournment:** 6:12pm