

Oakland University Student Congress

April, 18, 2005 Legislative Body Meeting Minutes

Call to Order at 4:03 P.M

Roll Call

Tardy: Kristina Butler, Allison Cummings-Stuckman, Alicia Feys, Stelanie Marshall, and Derrick Putansu

Absent: Jillian Key and Jeni Schroers

Quorum established

Approval of Minutes from April 4, 2005 and April 11, 2005

Vote: APPROVED

Speakers

Maria Benza, OU Softball announced game for Tuesday April 19, at 3 P.M against Michigan State. Ty Herriott, OU Baseball announced game on Wednesday, April 20, at 3 P.M against Eastern Michigan University. Attendance is Free and Open to All.

Comments from Gallery

Mark Ewing

-Destroyed Car in Parking Lot

-Grizz Statue Cost Questions

-Interfaith Worship Area Concerns: A more solid Student Movement, Religious Leaders, Not Student Government

-PRINTWISE SITUATION: Inaccurate not to have student representation on that committee, Rowe must held accountable

Parliamentary Procedure Briefing by Joshua Miller, OUSC Steering Committee Chair

Executive Board and Appointed Agent Confirmations

Administrative Assistant – Crystal Allen

Porter: Why did you choose this position?

Allen: I have worked a lot with Congress although some of my experience was informal. I have worked both under Shay Binion and Krupa Ujla and I am well aware of the Elections process. I feel this is the best way for me to represent the students positively.

Vote: APPROVED

Financial Affairs Director – Brendan Stevens

Kopson: Why do you think you qualify?

Stevens: I've had the privilege to work with the CSA office and have been able to familiarize myself with the financial system here at OU. I don't know everything about the position, but I'm a good learner.

Vote: APPROVED

Legislative and Multicultural Affairs – Saman Waquad

Porter: What do you hope to a Legislative and Multicultural Affairs Director?

McGuinness: The By-Laws give power to President and Vice President to create an e-board position. Multicultural organizations are important on campus. Student Government should have a voice for multicultural organizations on campus.

Porter: As a Resident Assistant and with this E-board position how can you do an effective job?

Waquad: I had worries about that as well, but I have talked to Jackie and asked what it is she did by have had been an RA and on the E-Board for Congress and I believe that I can do a good job.

Miller: Do you have any ideas to get student body involved in legislation in Lansing?

Waquad: It is important for students to know how legislation affects them.

Vote: APPROVED

Student Activities Funding Board Chair – Lindsay McCullough

McCullough not present.

Miller: The New Constitution will be approved by The Board of Trustees; If McCullough cannot be here for her confirmation, will she be here to perform her duties?

McGuinness: She understands her duties well and will take responsibility. She was alerted to her appointment only days ago and had prior obligations. I have also made it known that I want my entire e-board at the table. I will be enforcing that.

Miller: What sort of ideas does she have that she wants to bring to SAFB?

McGuinness: She wants to build on Diversity for Dollars. She stressed that she wants to bring in new ideas for student organizations.

Vote: APPROVED

Student Program Board Chair – Madalyn Miller

Kopson: Share with us something that you hope to achieve this upcoming year.

M. Miller: I am not at liberty to give you the big programs we already have planned, but they are excellent and high profile. One of my goals is to transition SPB to bring out more students to events.

Vote: APPROVED

Student Services Director - Katie Miller

K. Miller: I have a bunch of ideas for next year. The Paw Print Program: a way to involve uninvolved students. Give students pride to attend an event, and I would like a Community Service Initiative. Campus Clean Up was great.

J. Miller: what sort of programs have we done in the past that you would like to carry on?

K. Miller: Book Swap, TAP, Gender and Sexuality Center. I like all the programs we do.

Vote: APPROVED

Transition Coordinator - Jim Gammicchia

Gammicchia not present.

Vote: APPROVED

Publicity Agent - Krupa Ujla

Vote: APPROVED

Old Business

C.B. 06-01 (Spring/Summer 2005 Budget, Second Reading)

McGuinness: I met with Mary Beth Snyder. 3,000 pounds, 8 ft., will be located outside the Recreation Center. OGL thought that there should have been a point/highlight of School Spirit. Grizz Statue will leave a lasting impression on our campus. Sculptors, parents of a former OU Swim team member from Hungary donated their time to build statue. Total estimate for construction, and transportation of materials \$50,000. Jack Mehl and Athletics donated \$5,000, Student Affairs donated \$5,000, and Student Congress donated \$5,000.

Glatfelter: While I like the idea of an Interfaith Worship area, I do not believe it is Student Congress to pay money.

Ujla: How will this area be different from any other meeting room?

McGuinness: The idea is that they can come together. It's an informational and educational tool for students. It isn't about us subsidizing for this to happen it is a way for Congress to support it.

Ujla: I just don't understand how it will be different from other areas. My question still has not been answered.

Waquad: It's good to promote religious tolerance. It's more so a research center. I think that's the difference.

Putansu: Is there any amount of money that religious organizations will give, or will Congress' money be the first money given?

McGuinness: I cannot accurately answer that. I do not know if any religious organizations have already spent some funds or sat down and discussed whether or not they would help fund it.

Maurer: Amending to strike \$5 attendance gift for Spring/Summer meetings.

Amendment: PASSED

Porter: We don't have any room specified for any organization. I don't see the purpose for this body to give money to any organization for a certain cause. I think it will open up a can of worms.

Putansu: Motion to strike the line item of the Interfaith Worship Area, and put the funds in the uncategorized funds for the next year.

13 in favor, 0 opposed, 5 abstained Motion: PASSED

Nahas: I'm troubled by the fact that no one is presenting anything more concrete. I feel a lack of support.

Ujla: I still like the idea, but it is not Congress' job to supply religious materials. It is the organization's responsibility.

J. Miller: I motion to vote on voting.

Motion: PASSED

Kopson: Motion to strike the line item of the Grizz Statue from \$10,000 to \$5000. Place the \$5000 into uncategorized funds.

5 favor, 14 opposed, Motion: FAILS

J. Miller: I think it is wrong for us to foot 30% of the bill for the statue.

Nahas: Let's get the statue. We are the Student Congress.

Ujla: I agree with the statue, but I agree with J. Miller. The statue is a renovation for the university. \$5000 that we will be saving will bring a lot more for congress.

Cummings-Stuckman: We have the money to do it now; I don't think we should decrease. If we wait for too long I am afraid it won't get done.

Putansu: when brought up last fall it was said we would donate \$5000 for the statue. To come back now and say that we will give \$10,000 for a base is ridiculous. Time yielded to gallery member.

Mark Ewing: It just seems that when there is money needed for something it is put on the students. This needs to stop.

Nahas: Let's take the 5 grand and if there is anything else needed give it.

Porter: It's not like it is money we don't have. It's not like it is something students wouldn't be in support of. I remember at least 5000 student signatures. Put it in the hands of our President and Vice President.

J. Miller: Motion to amend, Black and Gold pens from \$2200 to \$1500, and handouts and other materials from \$3000 to \$2000.

8 favor, 6 opposed, abstained Motion: PASSED

K. Miller: Will the statue possibly have the fight song on the base? With the E-Board hours, if we would allow a redistribution of hours. Maybe 10 hours instead of 5 in August and May. I'd like to encourage increasing the hours during the August month. It is a very busy month. This is just a suggestion for me personally.

M. Miller: I have concerns on consistency.

K. Miller: You have a job that needs to be done. I think if people can give the time when they have the time, it would be easier.

Porter: Can you explain the thing about the classroom exhibitions?

McGuinness: It is the more distinct campus flavor. Displaying Student Artists displays would share the wealth to everyone on campus.

Putansu: Call main motion to question as amended.

Favor: 10 Opposed: 4 Abstaining: 4 Motion PASSED

J. Miller: The total uncategorized funds should be more precise.

Main Motion:

Favor: 12 Oppose: 4 Abstaining: 3 Motion PASSED

New Business:

Confirmation of Disciplinary Committee Members:

Legislators Kristina Butler and George Nahas

Cummings-Stuckman: Why just these two?

Porter: I had seven people who signed up for the committee, and out of the seven four were in attendance at the open house. I wanted to ensure that the two members knew what they were getting into.

Favor: 13 opposed:0 Abstaining: 2 Vote: APPROVED

Discussion Topic:

OUSC Spring Summer Budget.

Vote to Close: Approved

Research and Review: "Scholarships" referral from April 11 meeting.

Kristina Butler: I've done research on the different types of scholarships Oakland offers and came up with about 14 pages. (Reads from Scholarship Page)

McGuinness: Are there any shortcomings that you think the university has?

Butler: Definitely. I think that we should push to have these scholarships offered online. It would be easier to fill out if they were available to fill out there.

Selection of next Discussion Topic of the Week

Allen: Housing -- students being asked to move out at the odd times before all finals are over.

Favor: 1

M. Miller: Inter-Denominational Worship Area.

Favor: 8

Discussion topic until May 16, 2005.

APPROVED

Additional Discussion Topics

Housing and Student Move-out Date:

Maurer: Everybody is involved with this problem, and it probably won't happen again.

K. Miller: I have several residents that live far away and the housing office is making accommodations.

Cumming: They are not allowing students that work to stay.

Maurer: It is not Housings fault.

Glatfelter: I'd just like to see if you have any religious leaders and they would like to have the Interfaith Worship Center.

K. Miller: I don't think that three need-based scholarships is inadequate.

Waquad: There area lot of students transferring to Oakland, there is a need for more scholarship.

Maurer: Saying that there are only three need-based scholarships is misleading.

Butler: There are three types of scholarships that are need based.

k. Miller: I t depends on how you categorize need based.

M. Miller: There is a SPB event this Friday. I would encourage everyone to come. We have the De-Stress Zone and other event all over campus.

Reports:

McGuinness: Student Life Lecture Board. James Earl Jones will be coming, and Robert Kennedy will be coming this fall. I have entered the Student Congress office in the Office decorating Contest. Take our events for Welcome Week up a notch. Met with Dean McIntosh, and met with President Russi.

Caver: Congratulate all new E-Board members. We are excited about the upcoming year. I will review J. Miller's Parliamentary Procedure.

Updates:

Porter: My report is written. Motion to add Bre Kopson as a Disciplinary Committee Member.

APPROVED

Butler: No written report. Met with committee to speak on scholarships, OUPD and Chartwells firing students, and no Work Study for Spring and Summer.

Cummings-Stuckman: I have talked with Doug Merriam and I have a lot of ideas that were not implemented last semester.

J. Miller: Steering Committee did the agenda, Robert's Rules of Order, Dates for the Next meetings, May 16 5 p.m., Jun 20, 5 p.m., July 25, 5p.m. and Aug. 29, 5 p.m.

Cummings-Stuckman: Motion to approve Scholarship Committee Members:

Alicia Feys, Meghan Redmond, Stephanie Mungo, Mia Evans, Cherise Steward, Shaylin Jones, Jillian Key, Matt Sawicki, Stelanie Marshall, Shaylin Jones

Vote: Approved

Announcements:

a. Carnival for Change raised \$378.22. Thank you for all your help!

b. Spring/Summer Meetings: May 16, 5 P.M.; June 20, 5 P.M.; July 25, 5 P.M.; August 29, 4 P.M. Please work these into your schedule if at all possible.

Comments from the gallery:

Mark Ewing: I don't have a problem, I just think they should be here and held accountable. The dreadful amendment to the constitution that the number of legislatures be lowered. It's a real tragedy for student representation.

Christina Rountree: I like the statue idea. The thing about the non-denominational place of worship, I like that idea, but how many students do you think will go?

Jean Ann Miller: The Spring Fest will be on Thursday instead of Friday from noon until 6:00 p.m. Laser Tag, 4 quad bungee jump, Carnival Games with prizes, De-Stress Zone, Artist, Bar-B-Q. Aug. 29 is a day for Jump Start.

Meeting Adjourned.