

# Minutes

Oakland University Student Congress

McGuinness/Caver Administration

Legislative Body Meeting Agenda

Oakland Room, Oakland Center

Monday, 2005

4:00 P.M.

**I. Call to Order**

**4:00 P.M.**

**II. Roll Call**

**Absent:** Allison Cummings-Stuckman, Mia C. Evans, Alicia Feys, Jillian Key, Bre Kopson, George Nahas, Montrell Porter

**Quorum:** Met

**III. Approval of Minutes from October 31, 2005**

**Minutes: Approved**

**IV. Confirmation of New Legislator**

**J. Miller:** I would like to make a motion to postpone until Kristina Butler arrives.

**Motion: Approved**

**a. Mike Mersol-Barg**

**McGuinness:** What is your comfort level w/ attending all legislative body meetings?

**Mersol-Barg:** I am comfortable.

**K. Miller:** Are u aware of the duties of a legislator?

**Mersol-Barg:** I am already on some committees, and one office hour is nothing, I will probably do more...I think I have it covered.

**M. Miller:** What do you think you can bring to this body?

**Mersol-Barg:** I am concerned about what the students are concerned about. I am here to serve the students to the best of my ability.

**Waquad:** In spite of the negative coverage, what brings you here to Congress?

**Mersol-Barg:** This is my niche; I've always been involved in stuff like this.

**Redmond:** How do you think you are qualified for this position, and are you prepared to deal with the controversy?

**Mersol-Barg:** I am no stranger of controversy; I have no problem stating the facts. I have a lot of experience in this field so I think I can handle it quite fine.

**Bailey:** What is you role in RHC and how can that contribute to you the student body as a whole.

**Mersol-Barg:** I am chair of the student advocacy committee, and I think that fits right into the framework.

**Approved**

**V. Comments from the Gallery**

## **VI. Discussion Topics**

### **a. Discussion Topic of the Week: Promoting cultures/how to be diversity friendly**

**McGuinness:** This is a time this week to promote different cultures. CMI Essay Contest. Partner w/CMI to motivate activism in cultural awareness. What is the state of diversity on OU's campus today? If you are a seasoned member, has it progressed? GSC and how does it relate to diversity.

**M. Miller:** There is a multitude of what culture is. Are there any parts of culture that we didn't hit? I just wanted feedback on that.

**Redmond:** There has been a significant change since last year's multicultural roundtable discussion. There still is a problem. In the dorms, there is a majority of one race, or sexuality. Although, there is significant improvement, there is still more to come.

**K. Miller:** I spoke to my residents on the issue, and several residents were excited about the culture of the building and the appreciation of diversity. Sometimes there is a self selection as to where you ant to live on campus. If there are any other questions about housing let me know.

**M. Miller:** In an effort to be more culturally aware, we should step out of our comfort zones.

**McCullough:** I would like to see again the voluntary segregation program put on by CMI After Hours, and a number of other orgs.

**McGuinness:** 10% of our student body population stays on campus. We should bring the issue to RHC.

**Waquad:** With the MRT there have been different student leaders showing up. We've gotten a lot of dialogue w/student orgs. Student Leaders have realized that they do a lot of similar programming and can collaborate with other orgs.

### **b. Selection of next Discussion Topic of the Week**

**McGuinness:** What was the experience of others who have participated in OU Day @ the Capital and with the Association of Michigan Universities?

(1)

**Panchenko:** What do people really think of student congress? (0)

**McCullough:** The New Associate Director of Athletics has decided to allow all OU students free entry into games. (0)

**Waquad:** Active student Leaders...I don't feel that legislators are active enough. (0)

**Redmond: To Combine Saman and Adam's discussion topic to see how students feel about us but to see how we can be more involved. (8)**

**K. Miller:** What are student expectations of OUSC? (What do u want from us) (0)

**M. Miller:** What do students think of the campus media outlets (Oakland Post)? (1)

**K. Miller:** What do students think of the Oakland Post and do u know that OUSC advertises in the Oakland Post.

**McCullough:** How do u want to hear about the events OUSC puts on. (0)  
(3 abstentions)

c. Additional Discussion Topics related to Guest Speakers or Comments from the Gallery

**VII. Reports**

- a. Michael McGuinness- Student Body President
- b. Kori Caver- Student Body Vice President
- c. Brendan J. Stevens- Financial Affairs Director
- d. Lindsay McCullough- Student Activities Funding Board Chair
- e. Madalyn Miller- Student Program Board Chair
- f. Katie Miller- Student Services Director
- g. Saman Waquad-Legislative and Multicultural Affairs Director
- h. Krupa Ujla- Public Relations Agent

**VIII. Updates**

- a. Montrell Porter, Disciplinary Chair (**Absent**)
- b. Kristina Butler, research and Review Chair
- c. Stelanie Marshall, Scholarship Chair
- d. Joshua Miller, Steering Committee Chair

**IX. Comments from the Gallery**

**Mark Ewing:** You have someone out her wanting to be approved to be a legislator, but you can't get your people out here. I am not putting the blame on Kristina Butler, but that's what they have a committee for. This is what makes people mad.

**Gammiechia:** Trustee Vaskin made some good points as to why there shouldn't be rolling of fees, unfortunately he was the only one who voted NO. and there was a working session afterward. There is a \$2.2 million to promote student growth.

**McGuinness:** What are your next moves as being out student Board Of Trustees liaison?

**McCullough:** I want to suggest that they call it Rollin' with the Grizz.

**Waquad:** What changes will the SFAC are faced with, with the rolling of fees.

**Gammiechia:** I haven't asked yet, but I will check.

**Kwame Everett:** I have a simple complaint about Chartwell's Food Services. There was a lemony taste, and a friend told me that they had just sprayed the area to clean with some lemon disinfectant.

**McCullough:** Do you think that cleaner will taste a lemon?

**Everett:** Yes.

**McCullough:** Did you express it to Chartwells?

**Everett:** I didn't want to have anything to do with it after that, I left.

**McGuinness:** Was this the dining Center or Food Court, and what day and time.

**Everett:** It was the dining area, and it was Thursday evening.

**M. Miller:** There is a new statement of Student Concern in the Congress Office.

**K. Miller:** If you could fill one out a form we can go through the stages to get fix the matter; the more we have on file, the more weight we have.

**Bailey:** On behalf of the Residence Halls Council, we are in constant contact with our director Kristine Engel, and we will be sure to bring this matter among others to her attention.

**Mersol-Barg:** Can you write a brief description because the more that we have the more weight it carries.

**X. Announcements**

- a. **Congrats to the OUSC College Bowl Demo team for their 415-15 victory over the Honors College. The traveling trophy has been retained for another year!**
- b. **There is an opening on the Research and Review Committee. Interested legislators should contact Research and Review Chair Kristina Butler.**
- c. **City elections are on Tuesday, November 8.**
- d. **OU Day at Capitol is Thursday, November 10.**

**XI. Adjournment**

**5:05 P.M.**