

# Minutes

**Oakland University Student Congress  
McGuinness/Caver Administration  
Legislative Body Meeting Agenda  
Oakland Room, Oakland Center  
Monday, March 13, 2006  
4:00 P.M.**

- I. Call to Order**  
**4:00 pm**
- II. Roll Call**  
**Absent: Corbishdale, Cummings-Stuckman, Nahas, Zatkoff**  
**Quorum: Met**
- III. Approval of Minutes from March 6, 2006**  
**J. Miller:** Under Section B, C.R. 06-14, resolution failed; C.R. 06-15 failed, and I voted NO.  
**Mersol-Barg:** I sent out corrections; don't know if they were added to the minutes.  
**Kubicek:** Postpone until next meeting, I didn't get corrections and I checked my email 15 minutes ago.  
**Motion: Passes**
- IV. Confirmation of New Legislators**
- a. Timothy Atwood**  
**Atwood:** Capable of being legislator, various activities, vice-president of Grizz dance student organization, treasure of film makers' guild, SAFB member, Video Club Promotions Director, Non-commissioned Officer in U.S. Marine Corp.  
**J. Miller:** Is there anything in congress and the university, as a whole that you feel should be changed.  
**Atwood:** There are some on campus things, Hours of Operation, wider open access for people who work during the day.  
**Feys:** What other reasons would you like to be a legislator?  
**Atwood:** Get experience, build on resume, enough insight and experience, to help legislative body in decision making.  
**McGuinness:** What is your most enjoyable time with SAFB?  
**Atwood:** Does an excellent job, been a part of the group for about 3-4 months, Great that we get people out to be involved; great that student congress can give these things to students.  
**McGuinness:** How will you make the most of your time for the remainder of this semester?  
**Atwood:** Not really focusing on the Winter Semester am up for election.  
**Kubicek:** Is this long-term?  
**Atwood:** In this for the long run, until I graduate.  
**Atwood: Approved**
- b. Kayla Burton**

**Burton:** Public relations for the OAA; have been doing this since High School.

**Kubicek:** If confirmed, what would you bring to the table; are there any areas of improvement?

**Burton:** Bridge all gaps; the more we're separated the worse we are.

**Kubicek:** Do you see as long term?

**Burton:** Yes

**McGuinness:** More about on campus, status, etc.

**Burton:** On Campus, Journalism, Student Program Board, and Student Services committee; interesting because I get to help the students.

**Burton:** *Approved*

**V. Comments form the Gallery**

**Jim Gammicchia:** One Position opening for Board Of Trustees Liaison, due by March 31.

**M. Miller:** Is it true that to be a Board Of Trustees liaison you can't be in another elected position?

**Gammicchia:** Yes, this is so that liaisons can to stay focused.

**K. Miller:** What is the time commitment, and are there benefits?

**Gammicchia:** Free, 4 hours once a month; learn a lot about university, meet a lot of great people, great networking.

**VI. Old Business**

**a. C.B. 06-13 (Office Hours bill, previously postponed)**

**Ewing:** discussion on the Yahoo! Groups, don't know the benefits; motion to postpone indefinitely, and talk about it, and see who can and can't participate.

**Motion:** Passes

**b. C.B. 06-14 (Budget Amendment, second reading)**

**Vitale:** Take money away from programs that we haven't used or what we have done and haven't used all of and put it toward Michigan Civil Rights Initiative Education Programs.

**Stevens:** Alcohol Awareness Week, \$500 have already been spent, Numbers aren't back yet, it was circulated, I wish someone would have talked to me first, and I could've answered all question. No one talked to me, and this is the one thing that I had control over.

**McGuinness:** It's not necessary at this point for this large amount of funds. Yield to Waquad

**Waquad:** Since legislation concerns my position, I would have appreciated someone to come and talk to me. I am already working on an Affirmative Action program.

**Mersol-Barg:** First, apologize to Brendan, Saman we did mention it to you. Regarding where the money is coming from, and as far as I've been told it's accurate until now. Also regarding the large sum of money, we need to educate the students as said in a previously passed bill, we should make good on our promise. Regarding Environmental Awareness, I had no intention of taking away from that.

**M. Miller:** The retreat money that was left over may be used for something else. The problem is a respect issue; it's respectful to talk to someone about what's going on. It's a matter of working together; that is the most effective way to work for students (working together) There is a lack of communication, budgets can get confusing.

**K. Miller:** Any of the money that's allocated for a Student Services Committee will be spent. You should talk to the people it concerns, so that we could know what's going on. Good idea for MCRI; the money that is being allocated is over the top. Collaboration may help us find different ways. I would suggest us lower the amount. Yield to Waquad

**Waquad:** negative feedback is not about the program, but the way that it was done.

**Point of Personal Privilege: Waquad**

**Kubicek:** Amendment: strike 2<sup>nd</sup> resolve, and strike 4<sup>th</sup> resolve, and add to 7<sup>th</sup> resolve to read correct amount.

**Mersol-Barg:** There are serious issues that can't be addressed, motion to postpone

**Point of Personal Privilege: Feys**

**K. Miller:** All the amendment would do was strike the items that have already been spent.

**Fallis:** The money has already been spent so this shouldn't be problem. Call to question

**Motion: Passes**

**Amendment: Passes**

**Fallis:** Under the impression that the 4<sup>th</sup> resolve to remove monies put up for candy was spent on scantrons, we also have speakers that will come for free, and do we have money for special circumstances?

**Kochenderfer:** I think we should actually figure out what programs we will do, and then decide how much money we need.

**Point of Personal Privilege: Mungo**

**Ewing:** Motion to postpone until March 20

**Motion: Passes**

**c. Student Activities Fee Assessment Committee**

**McGuinness:** (Summary of SAFAC Proposal see proposal)

**M. Miller:** Big component of this proposal, from SPB perspective, if you want us to have more events we need more money. We spend all of our money. Average student activity fee is over \$100. We have a lot of potential with a lot of organizations, and the fact that we don't charge sets us apart. Improvement is always ideal. Yield to Gammicchia

**Gammicchia:** \$8200 student activity fee, stand behind an increase, however must caution timing. Last increase took 4-5 months; you are increasing tuition. Pass proposal with a side note.

**McCullough:** We all need more money. With the \$6 increase, we would get \$40,000 more. If we stayed at certain percentages, without the increase, it wouldn't be good.

**Allen:** Who has to approve this to go on the ballot, Congress or Board of Trustees?

**McGuinness:** Requires 2/3 vote of this body, then it goes directly onto the ballot. Then it does require Board of Trustees' approval.

**Stevens:** Group of people spent a lot of time on this, and made decision unanimously. The more often we don't increase this the more often there is inflation. We are paying more, but we are having no increase. Students have the right to make this decision.

**Ewing:** Student Video Productions: where did the decision for criteria come from? Special Projects Fund: How will dispensing the money work?

**McGuinness:** Serves a unique role in student life. There was a presentation where they approved themselves. Special Projects Fund had a trial run.

**Point of Personal Privilege: Dan Kubicek**

**Vitale:** \$6 increase not a \$4 increase; if we want a \$4 increase, allow students to pay current fee, then pay an addition \$2. Why are we making another process when we could use the same one? Did each organization have to present their expenditures?

**McGuinness:**

**Mersol-Barg:** No question that we need more money. We can't just suddenly raise it. Is it finally approved by the BOT? No wiggle room; comes down to needing more money. Oakland is growing; commuter school, been hard to engage students on campus. It would have a profound effect on student organizations. Why wouldn't such an appropriation be attacked by SAFAC before? Yield with M. Miller

**M. Miller:** The idea behind the special project fund is that there aren't many alternatives. Can't really save money at the beginning of the year. Seems like the best alternative. Funds aren't dormant. All worked out for the best.

**J. Miller:** In favor of putting this before students. Looking at last year's proposal it says that safety net wouldn't be touched for two years. You can't take executive authority and over rule it.

**McGuinness:** Raises a good point. I was a part of the committee last year. There is a need for a safety net; hopeful I'm not carrying out any misconceptions. Yield to McCullough

**McCullough:** We have \$78,000 to work with; SAFB would've gone into deficit without it. It's silly to have it sit there not going back to students.

**Atwood:** How much would this cost OU students? How are percentages figured out?

**K. Miller:** Yield to gallery member

**Christine Cronauer:** Appears that there would be very few organizations with money left over. Speaking from WXOU, my budget showed that continuing to go at this rate, we would go \$20,000 in debt per year. No organization was being greedy with money. Student Video Club: Their presentation, they get a small amount of money for visibility on campus; communication and marketing purchases equipment; to make themselves

different from OUTV they are getting different separate equipment; visibly different.

**Ewing:** Like the increase. Attempted math equations Yield to Dean Maurer

**Dean Maurer:** Long term goal is to become OUTV, now it is run by IT Department. We want to run ourselves and own the television station.

**Vitale:** Why wouldn't the Oakland Post want us to see their budget? I don't like them having a problem with showing proof. It's unfair.

**J. Miller:** Would rather have money just sit there, deficit safety net should be there; a mochary is being mad of power, we don't deserve it. Process was not followed.

**Point of Personal Privilege: Matt Sawicki**

**Mersol-Barg:** Would it be raised \$4 from \$19 or will it go straight to \$25? Seems foolish for the money to just sit there. Amendment: eliminate special project fund and allow SAFAC to redistribute them according to the percentages they were given.

**McGuinness:** Think it's a bad idea; call to question and vote against it.

**McCullough:** This percentage serves more student organizations more than it would SAFB. Yield to gallery member.

**Jordan Twardy:** I think if you eliminate special project fund it would be bad. You should always have something.

**M. Miller:** eliminating special project fund is a bad idea. This body eliminating the special project fund is going against seven orgs that thought it was a good idea. Yield to Roqaya Rashmawi

**Rashmawi:** Agree with Madalyn, we all agreed on this decision

**Kubicek:** Motion to make a roll call vote on this legislation when it's time to vote.

**Motion: Passes**

**Mersol-Barg:** This is a financial safety net, not a special project fund. Using it in a different manner. Yield to Mia C. Evans

**Evans:** Don't know if this was handled in the right way; why can't we provide them with some type of insurance. We should think about this before the group approves it.

**Stevens:** We're using the term safety net as if it's the only thing that it's there for. We call it special project because we use it for something we won't need every year; without this fund it would be impossible for the organizations to take care of what they need to take care of.

**J. Miller:** Did the SAFAC try to figure out how they would distribute these funds? Yield to Stevens

**Stevens:** Our thought process was at least a 2/3

**Burton:** Yield to Hardenburgh

**Hardenburgh:** The university doesn't like it when you don't spend the money you've been allocated.

**Fallis:** Motion to call to question (Amendment)

**Motion: passes**

**Burton:** N

*Evans: N*

*Ewing: N*

*Fallis: N*

*Kubicek: N*

*Marshall: N*

*Mersol-Barg: A*

*Miller: N*

*Porter: N*

*Proffett: N*

*Putansu: A*

*Redmond: N*

*Rotarius: N*

*Vitale: N*

**Amendment: Fails**

**Point of Personal Privilege: Rotarius**

**Evans: Call to Question**

*Motion: Passes*

*Burton: Y*

*Evans: Y*

*Ewing: Y*

*Fallis: Y*

*Kubicek: Y*

*Marshall: Y*

*Mersol-Barg: Y*

*Miller: Y*

*Porter: Y*

*Proffett: Y*

*Putansu: Y*

*Redmond: Y*

*Vitale: Y*

**Proposal: Passes**

**Kubicek: Motion to adjourn for NCAA Selection Monday**

**Motion: Passes**

**Meeting: Adjourned**

**6:00 pm**