

Oakland University Student Congress Minutes
Monday, July 16, 2007
Lake Michigan Room, Oakland Center

I. Call to Order

a. Meeting was called to order at 5:12 p.m.

II. Roll Call

a. Absent

i. Nina Lavelanet

ii. Nick Myzuick

iii. J.L. Ricks

iv. Dmitriy Shapiro

III. Approval of minutes

a. Minutes are approved

IV. Nomination and Selection of Committee Chair

a. Research and Review Chair

i. Todd Fitzsimmons

1. Nominated by Ben Spedoske and seconded by Ben Vereecke

a. Rob Meyer: Do you have any ideas about what you want to research?

i. Todd Fitzsimmons: The tuition increase, parking, and Chartwells

2. Voted in with two abstaining

b. Mark Medaugh: Suspending quorum in the event they lose quorum for this meeting.

i. Resend previous motion and motion to move new business to the next item on the agenda.

ii. Opposed by Joshua Miller

iii. Motion passed

V. Confirmation of Committee Members

a. Ben Vereecke, Disciplinary Chair

i. Confirmed with Ben Vereecke abstaining.

VI. Comments from the Gallery

VII. New Business

a. C.R. 08-01 (OU Anti-smoking policy)

i. Rob Meyer: Move this issue to the Research and Review committee so they can research what other university have taken this actions.

ii. Joshua Miller: This bill should be passed as is since I'm a co-sponsor we should be leaders instead of researching the sister schools and see what their policy entail.

iii. Mr. Brown: We are putting people out into the weather and I don't think that fair. As far as Subsec. D I don't think that they are authorized to pass such a law.

iv. Mark Medaugh: This is just a suggestion and this is way of showing our support as students to the board of trustees.

v. Jordan Twardy: It's a "feel good" resolution to say that Oakland University is a smoke-free campus.

1. Opposed

a. Kristen Gura

b. Ben Vereecke

c. Frank Norton

2. Motion Passed

b. C.R. 08-02 (Campus Speed Limits)

i. Marc Griffin: Raising the speed limit is not a "smart idea" and it's irresponsible. People speed already and mostly the OUPD won't pull you over for doing 5 miles over.

ii. Rob Meyer: We should table this discussion because research needs to be done.

iii. Jordan Twardy: This should be referred to Research and Review board for studying

iv. Phillicia Jackson

v. Todd Fitzsimmons: Motion to send this to research and review. Seconded by Joshua Miller.

1. Motion Passed.

c. C.R. 08-03 (OU Tuition Increase)

i. Jordan Twardy: 2/3 of the funding is going towards the "shafting" that the state gave us.

ii. Rob Meyer: They are raising it over \$330 something is going towards pay raise and health benefit increase. Board of Trustees talked about giving refunds back to students. Tuition was raised 13.9%.

iii. Ben Vereckee moves previous question.

1. Motion passed

iv. Resolution have been approved unanimously

d. C.B. 08-02

1. Recognize Dmitriy Shapiro as present and voting.

ii. Mark Medaugh: We shouldn't spend \$3,000 towards voter registration and this isn't a voting year. SAF shouldn't get any money because they barely meet.

iii. Phillicia Jackson: If you have any discussions about GROW then see what I have to say and send it on OUSC Google groups.

iv. Rob Meyer: Send out what the \$3,100 will be used for and we can discuss further about the item in the budget.

v. Jameelah Muhammed: Pertinent information; that everything costs money.

vi. Phillicia Jackson: Things can be resolved through OUSC Google groups.

VIII. Discussions Topics

a. New Legislator Recruitment- Rob Meyer

i. We need ideas to recruit legislators

ii. Jordan Twardy: We need to utilize the committees that don't need only legislators as members.

iii. Jameelah Muhammed: We need people to volunteer at the orientation.

iv. Amanda Vanderford: We have so many things to give out so try and utilize it.

b. Future Trips to Lansing- Rob Meyer

i. We want to plan another trip to Lansing on a Wednesday in August.

1. Mark Medaugh: We can use some of the funds from the OUSC Initiative towards the trips.

c. OUSC Reaction to the OU Tuition Increase- Jordan Twardy

i. I want to make sure we are getting out money's worth since they are raising the cost. I also want to have plenty of hearings on this.

ii. Rob Meyer: They didn't take in the 55% that actually pay out of pockets. That's a really big problem.

iii. Mark Medaugh: I understand 3-4% inflation, but at the same time I think that we need to focus on the fact that enough is enough.

iv. Phillicia Jackson: We need to have an organized protest, not like they are boycotting their classes, but showing them that we care and aren't happy about it.

v. Rob Meyer: Tuition has gone up much more than the rate of inflation. The \$4-5 million that the state didn't give we need to be on top of it. The way to do that is to be at the Board of Trustees meeting.

- vi. Joshua Miller: People sit back and take the increase and every year there's an increase. I agree that we should have a protest and it should be loud.
- vii. Jordan Twardy: It was stated that they aren't cutting to the bone and trying to take a tuition hike to cover themselves. When it came to questions they had statistical "feel goods" but it didn't answer the questions.
- viii. J.L. Ricks: It's just going to continue whether we write resolution or not. We need to have something on the OUSC website about where the money is going.
- ix. Kristen Gura: Protest is good, but I don't want to upset or anger them. We should be really cautious on this protest.
- x. Jameelah Muhammed: Have a committee that sole purpose is to focus on the tuition and increase. How can we figure out a way to stop this from happening in the future.

IX. Reports

- a. Mr. Rob Meyer- Student Body President
 - i. Report was written and circulated
- b. Ms. Jameelah Muhammed- Student Body Vice President
 - i. Report was written and circulated
- c. Ms. Danielle Fallis- Student Activities Funding Board
 - i. Postponed
- d. Tamara Kukuk- Student Programming Board
 - i. Postponed
- e. Marc Griffin- Financial Affairs Director
 - i. Getting the budget together and paying a few bills. Need to sit down and talk with Jean, Jean Ann, and Ann about the scholarships.
- f. Jordan Twardy- Student Services Director
 - i. Report was written and circulated.
- g. Phillicia Jackson- Legislative and Multicultural Affairs Director
 - i. Report was written and circulated.
- h. Ms. Amanda Vanderford- Publicity and Technology Coordinator
 - i. Report was written and circulated.

X. Updates

- a. Ms. Nina Lavelanet- Disciplinary Committee Chairwoman
 - i. Postponed
- b. Mr. Aaron Kochenderfer- Research and Review Committee Chairman
 - i. New Research and Review Committee Chair
- c. Mr. Mark Medaugh- Scholarship Committee Chairman
 - i. Report was written and circulated
- d. Mr. Joshua Miller- Steering Committee Chairman
 - i. Report is on the back of the Agenda

XI. Comments from the Gallery

XII. Announcements

- a. The remaining OUSC Summer meeting schedule will be as follows: August 13, and August 27. Both meetings are on a Monday and will begin at 5:00 p.m in the Oakland Room.

XIII. Adjournment

- a. Meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.