

SGA SENATE MEETING
September 12, 2005

OFFICERS PRESENT: Day, Lewis, Jordan, Williams, Moreira, Smart, Cylenia

OFFICERS ABSENT: none

OFFICERS ON LEAVE: none

SENATORS PRESENT: Armes, Baghaei, Bullock, Burney, Byrd, Colley, Daniels, Dion, Ditto, Dodd, Coyle, Dykes, Edwards, Graves, Jackson, Jarvis A., Jarvis B., Johnson, Long, Malik, Perez, Pierce, Saeed, Schneider, Shirazi, Smith, Snow, Williams, Yazdanshenas M., Yazdanshenas N.

SENATORS ABSENT: Gossett, Snyder

SENATORS ON LEAVE: none

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: 9/12/05/01

CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION

SPONSOR: Senator Ditto

STATING: To approve the minutes of the September 7, 2005, SGA meeting.

OFFICER REPORTS:

President:

Under Special Orders tonight, we have Dr. Theodore. We had talked about putting volleyball courts around the SGA pavilion, and there are some sketches going around of what it might look like. We have a new work study in the SGA office, Cassandra Williams. If you haven't had your picture taken for the composite picture tonight, you need to do it immediately after the meeting. Also, make sure you have your picture taken tonight for the Vanguard. They will feature a senator or two every week on the back page. Tonight, Cylenia will be sworn in as the Vanguard Liaison. We will elect committee chairs tonight. Moonlight Madness is Friday, October 14th and there will be an after party with t-shirts, bands, and other fun stuff. If you're interested in helping plan this event, see Will Lewis.

Vice President:

After the meeting tonight, all senators need to sign a commitment sheet to serve on a committee. There are a limited number of spaces on the committees, so sign-up will be on a first come, first served basis. Under Old Business, we need to add the co-sponsorship for the College of Engineering. All committee chairs need to meet with me after the meeting tonight.

Treasurer:

The Budget Meeting has been moved to October 3rd

Attorney General:

Hello to everyone, especially the people here who are not senators. Sign up for Intramural football and water balloon battleship tonight. We need to order polos and jackets, so try them on, sign up and let me know your sizes.

Chief Justice:

I've had 25 ticket appeals so far, and there will probably be more by next week because they'll start cracking down soon. Get a parking decal if you don't already have one, and spread the word.

Student at Large:

I will have a list of things needed from the SGA for the hurricane relief drive posted in the SGA office by tomorrow morning. Anything you can bring will be greatly appreciated. The relief drive is campus-wide and it will run through October 1st.

Vanguard Liaison:

The Vanguard and SGA are working together to fill the Jag Tran with donations to take to Mississippi. We will leave Saturday morning at 9 a.m. and return later that day. They mainly need cleaning supplies, trash bags and people to help clean up. The Humane Society needs volunteers or they will have to start putting animals down. People are also needed to sort through the donations in the warehouse and organize them. Anyone can go to help, but you have to provide your own transportation. Robert Parker is working with the SGA and The Vanguard to coordinate this trip. President Day: If anyone is interested in helping, talk to me after the meeting and I'll put your name through to Robert Parker.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Jennifer Crossland:

The Political Science department and SGA are sponsoring Constitution Day on September 16th in the Humanities building, room 160 from 1:30 – 2:30. We'll be using the internet to show students how to learn more about our constitution. We need help passing out posters, so if you're interested in helping, sign up to be on the Governmental Affairs committee.

SPECIAL ORDERS:

Dr. Theodore:

I'm here to talk about the Rec Center and some ideas for other projects. First, the Rec Center was damaged severely during the hurricane and needs many repairs. We don't know when it will re-open. The weight room is open and we're looking at moving a few cardio machines over there, but there's not enough room to put all of the other machines too. Since the track is damaged, students can walk around the Intramural field, walk the halls in the PE building, or walk around the gym. I will be meeting with my student assistants Thursday to discuss opening up the basket ball courts in the PE building in the evening. The tennis courts are open, but the pool is closed and will probably remain closed until the Spring semester. We're talking about re-forming the Campus Recreation Improvement Board. This is not the first time to have a committee like this; we did it years ago to get our current Rec Center going.

We need to reactivate the board and the SGA can select people to serve on this board to discuss building a new Rec Center. We will visit other schools to get ideas. If you're interested in having a new Rec Center or Campus Improvement, get on this board.

President Day: Rec Centers have a lot of impact on increased college retention rates, so this is an important issue.

Senator Ditto: Would this be an SGA committee or Dr. Theodore's committee?

President Day: It will be everyone's committee. We would like to have a diverse group to represent all students' needs. Dr. Theodore will head it up.

Dr. Theodore: Another project to think about is the Nature Trails located past the transportation building. Right now, people from the community volunteer to keep the trails up. We could spruce it up and help the volunteers with monetary assistance as needed. The volunteers would still provide the labor. You could put up signs that read "SGA Nature Trails" or something like that. We have about 9.7 miles of trails.

Senator Byrd: Whose land is this?

Dr. Theodore: The land belongs to the university. Also, National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness week is October 23 – 30. We're sponsoring a kickball tournament on Friday night, the 28th. So maybe the SGA can co-sponsor the tournament and provide food or something. There will be other events going on to get involved in as well.

Senator Baghaei: Yield the floor to ???

???: I thought the original plans for the SGA pavilion not only called for basketball and volleyball courts, but tables as well. What happened to the tables?

President Day: We're checking into the original plan. If there was no money left over, then we'll provide the tables and grills.

Senator Yazdanshenas: Are we going to build a new Rec Center or just fix the old one?

Dr. Theodore: A new Rec Center is on the university's 10 year plan. Hopefully we can get it moved up on the priority list. It will be a new Rec Center, in a new location by the intramural fields and near the dorms and student life.

Senator Yazdanshenas: What about the old Rec Center? Will it be repaired and reopened?

Dr. Theodore: That decision will be made by administration. Most likely, if we get a new Rec Center, they will prepare the old building for new offices to take over.

Dr. Beard: Welcome back. A lot of lives have been interrupted by the hurricane. The Counseling Center on campus is available to all students. We are looking at students case by case with academic issues. Right now we have 110 displaced students at South. We're off to a rocky start, but we can do it. We look forward to having a great semester in spite of all this tragedy.

Swearing in of Chairs, Co-chairs and Vanguard Liaison

OLD BUSINESS:

MOTION: 9/12/05/02

Motion Passed

SPONSOR: Senator Baghaei

TITLE: Discussion of co-sponsorship with Engineering Department

STATING: To discuss the co-sponsorship of Engineering Department project

Jordan: Due to invoice problems, this co-sponsorship was pushed to the Fall semester, so we just need to re-approve the co-sponsorship.

Senator Burney: What will this money be used for?

Senator Baghaei: This is for a senate project from last year. We wanted to put concrete tables outside the engineering building so students could study outside. We had to go through so many approvals, the project got delayed, but now it's finally approved. The Engineering department is providing \$6,000 for the project.

President Day: The tables would be for all students to use, not just Engineering students.

Senator Long: When was this first approved?

Jordan: It was first approved over the summer, but it had to comply with the architects' standards, so it was pushed to this semester.

President Day: The compliance issue was that there has been trouble in the past with concrete benches and tables collapsing on campus, so we needed to make sure that these benches and tables would be safe.

MOTION: 9/12/05/03

Motion Passed

SPONSOR: Senator Baghaei

TITLE: Close discussion of co-sponsorship

STATING: To close the floor for discussion of the Engineering co-sponsorship

MOTION: 9/12/05/04

Motion Passed

SPONSOR: Senator Baghaei

TITLE: Co-sponsor College of Engineering

STATING: To co-sponsor the College of Engineering's project

MOTION: 9/12/05/05

Motion Passed

SPONSOR: Senator Ditto

TITLE: Change Budget Meeting date

STATING: To change the date of the Budget Meeting to October 3, 2005

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: 9/12/05/06

Motion Passed

SPONSOR: Senator Ditto

TITLE: Open floor for committee chair nominations

STATING: To open floor for nominations for committee chair positions as stated

Senator Jackson: I nominate Angelina Pierce for Rules committee chair

President Day: The Rules committee chair, along with 3 other senators, will handle excuses that are turned in by senators who miss meetings. You will decide whether or not their absence is excused. The Legal Affairs committee writes resolutions and changes the Code of Laws or the Constitution as needed. The Appropriations committee will handle secondary appropriation requests and decide what rules to apply for appropriations.

Senator Long: I nominate Will Jackson for Legal Affairs committee chair

Senator Graves: I nominate Senator Snow for the Appropriations committee chair

Senator Baghaei: I nominate Maryam Yazdanshenas for Appropriations committee chair

Senator Long: I nominate Senator Ditto for Rules committee chair

Senator Baghaei: I nominate myself for Legal Affairs committee chair.

MOTION: 9/12/05/07

Motion Passed

SPONSOR: Senator Baghaei

TITLE: Close the floor

STATING: To close the floor for committee chair nominations

VP Lewis: For the Rules committee we have Senator Pierce and Senator Ditto; for the Legal Affairs committee we have Senator Jackson and Senator Baghaei; for the Appropriations committee we have Senator Yazdanshenas and Senator Snow. Write the names of the people you're voting for and Apryle and Mo will pick them up.

MOTION: 9/12/05/08

Motion Passed

SPONSOR: Senator Ditto

TITLE: Go back to Committee Reports

STATING: Re-state the report from the Governmental Affairs committee

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Dr. Beard: Vote tomorrow. Exercise your right. Jennifer Crossland: If you would like more information on the candidates, you can look at their websites or pick up more information outside the student center. Lewis: The winners for the committee chair elections will now be announced. Apryle: Chair of Legal Affairs committee is Senator Jackson, Chair of Rules committee is Senator Pierce and Chair of Appropriations committee is Senator Snow. Day: Don't forget to have your picture taken tonight, vote tomorrow, remember Constitution Day. We're taking senator applications for Arts & Sciences and Computer Sciences. The applications are due a week from Friday. Jordan: Budget packets are in the SGA office, they're due Friday. Burney: Get on Board Day is September 21 from 11:00 – 2:00. You can get 4 office hours if you can be there for SGA the whole time. Summary of office hours will be available next Monday. Remember you have to have 25 office hours for this semester. Apryle: I need your shirt sizes tonight, and sign up for Intramural sports tonight.

MOTION: 9/12/05/09

Motion Passed

SPONSOR: Senator Jackson

TITLE: Adjournment

STATING: To adjourn the SGA meeting of 9/12/05 at 9:00 p.m.