

Student Government Association Senate
Wednesday, 3/4/2020
Session Agenda

I. Call the meeting to order 5:04 PM

In absence of Welsey Cognevich the senate's appointed VPLA, Desmond Leblanc is presiding the meeting. Since Desmond Leblanc is Presiding the meeting Michael Billior COLA moved to Parliamentarian, and we appointed Sarah Johnson as Prop Tempore.

II. Roll Call

Alford, W- Here

Billiot, M- Here

Cannon, K- Here

Cao, N-Here

Crenshaw, D-Here

Fretz, H-Here

Jackson, K- Here by Proxy

Johnson, S-Here

Karkoutli, D-Here

Lair, B-Here

Lair, C-Here

Leblanc, D-Here

Melancon, A- Absent

Mott, B- Here by Proxy

Ngo, L-Absent

Owen, M-Absent

Pitalo, C-Here by Proxy

Phillips, L-Here

Rusnak, A-Here

Smith, Bradley- Here by Proxy

Smith, Brendon-Absent

Snow, C- Here

Stackhouse, M- Here

Stevenson, S- Absent

Stewart, C-Absent

Thamard, Y-Here by Proxy

Vitali, J- Here

Yarbrough, T- Absent (Recognized later in the meeting)

Cognevich, W- absent

21/29 senators present we do meet quorum

III. Approval of the Agenda

Approved

IV. Approval of the Minutes

Rusnak COS- I don't know if this was changed but I emailed the VPLA because I sent in a proxy before the meeting via email and he must've not gotten in on time for the meeting. So I was not absent and I do not want it on my record.

Julianne Clerk- The VPLA and I saw your email and changed your absence in our records.

Minutes Approved

V. Communications and Announcements (3min; non-SGA-related)

Phillips JAL- I'm working with UNIV to hire peer mentors for next semester. See our instagram page and SASC it is a paid position only for an hour a week.

Christine B President- I was reached out by the orientation leaders about a supply drive they are doing in the next week, It is for the center for courageous kids and they are looking for general and medical supplies. They reached out to multiple organizations so I thought I could mention it. If anyone is interested, I will email you out the supply list, just bring it in next week on wednesday at the meeting.

VI. Committee Reports (3min + 3min Q&A)

a. Governance- no report

b. Rules- Leblanc COLA rules did meet and we met quorum and went through all the bills, discrepancy on bills being sent in on time and they made the agenda.

c. Finance- Fretz GAL met via email and no report, i wanted to ask about the confusion with the last week meeting. This week when the committee met we got lost in the emails because there are so many bills going out to committees and I want to ask if we can have final clarification on which bills are on the agenda and with their names bright and bold so we can vote on the right one's for the meeting.

d. Student Affairs no report

VII. Other Reports (6min + 3min Q&A)

a. President- Christine Bourgeois- I hope you all had a good break. We have 3 stops left for lunch with Dr.Nicklow, Dr.Golz, 5 Senators and myself. SOme people RSVP's if you would like to go please email me I am trying to fill those spots up and so they know who is coming. It is not super formal but it is an opportunity to talk to them face to face and ask questions that you don't normally get to ask. This will be the last lunch of the semester. The pizza with the president is this friday I hope you guys come and enjoy pizza. The student technology fee got a lot of proposals. It is a chance for students to say what they would like to see improved on campus. We received requests to extend the deadline and had so much that we extended the deadline. We received 3 or 4 more so far which is great.

Billiot COLA- When is the next luncheon?

Bourgeois- March 24th 12-1:30

b. Vice-President- Read by Desmond Leblanc- Senate Operating Account is at \$10,776.18 , the Reserve account is at \$416,675.59. Budget requests were sent out before Mardi Gras and we have only received one so far so encourage student orgs and departments to apply. They are due March 12th @ 4:30 PM.

Billiot COLA- Is this the budget for the next school year for the organizations?

Ballard Adv- Yes, it starts next fiscal year.

c. Vice-President of Legislative Affairs- no report

d. Vice-President of Programming- Read by Julianne Romero via email. Jaylann Johnson On behalf of SAC here are our weekly minutes for the week of March 2nd-13th

The SAC E-Board took a trip to Denver, CO for the annual the NACA Nationals Convention, (National Association for Campus Activities). We gained valuable insight and information on how to bring "New & Diverse" events to our campus.

The month of March is observed to be Women's History Month and SAC is hosting events to honor Women & Womyn:

- Last night, we hosted "Girls Night In" an Open Forum that was centered around women (womyn's issues)
- On March 17th in the UC Ballroom from 7:00 pm- 10:00 pm we will be hosting **Bonnets 'N Bonding**. This is an opportunity for women (womyn) to come together to experience a night of sisterhood through team bonding exercises. Bonnets and hair scarfs will be given away at this event! ALL WOMEN ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND! Pajamas are encouraged!
- The Women's Retreat date is currently pending.

In addition, to all of our Women's Events we will be hosting a Glocade on March 12th from 7 pm- 10 pm (NEXT THURSDAY). A glo-cade is a glow in the dark arcade party, 100 free headphones for Silent Disco will be provided, and a Dj.

SAC is now enrolled in Remind 101, a free text alert system, to quickly inform students about upcoming events. To join text @unosac to 81010. You are also able to directly respond to us via messages if you have any questions.

If you sign up for the text alerts we will have reserve for you at the Glocade.

International Night which will take place on March 21st in the HPC 6:00pm-9:30pm is a **TOP PRIORITY EVENT FOR SAC this month**, as this event is celebrating over 40 years here at the university, SAC has been tasked with being the volunteer coordinator for this event. We are asking as many students as possible to sign up to volunteer. Volunteers will receive free entry into the event, food and a t-shirt (while supplies last). If you are able to help out Friday March 20th or Saturday, March 21st please sign up using our sign up genius. If you would like to perform for International Night please reach out to Gabby, the VP of ISO by this Friday. Also, on campus organizations and community organizations are encouraged to sign for International Night. Participants of International Night and Organizations that table also receive free access to international night.

Tickets for International Night is \$5.00.

Here is the sign up genius for the event

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C48ABAB2CA2FB6-international><https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C48ABAB2CA2FB6-international>

SUCbAUF is quickly approaching and we have already booked and announced Rebrith Brass Band as our live music for the evening. We have also decided upon the logo for this year and we will be hosting a kickball tournament. The event will be on April 16th from 6:00 pm- 8:00 pmin the Quad and Kirschman parking lot.

Again, students will receive a FREE wristband that has 3 tabs, each tab is worth 5 pounds of crawfish totaling to about 15 pounds per student. For any additional crawfish students will have to purchase a new band. **WATER AND DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED THIS YEAR and SNO-BALLS.**

Volunteer Sign Up for SUCbAUF is also coming soon.

E. Advisor Joy Ballard-I know I have emailed you a lot this week, and I have several updates and announcements. I am going to run through them all briefly and then I can take questions if you have specific questions.

Leadership Retreat is a campus tradition that dates back over 30 years! This year's event will be held at a retreat site in **Florence, Mississippi on March 27th-29th**. This is a great opportunity for SGA members to connect with other student organizations while building your leadership skills. The cost to attend is \$10, but SGA will cover the fee for SGA members attending. See my email to sign up.

Proud Privateers is celebrating its 5th year! This year the event will be on **April 2nd at 6 PM**. The Proud Privateers Banquet is a yearly event where members of all SGA branches nominate 1 faculty or staff member to recognize them for their contribution to their UNO experience. At the event each of these individuals will receive a gift, as well as a certificate with the kind words you write about them. You will also be seated next to them for this dinner, so please nominate someone you want to share a meal with. Examples of past nominees include other organization advisors, professors, and dining services employees. There are only 30 spots for nominations, so please turn in your nomination as soon as possible!

UNO is helping host the **5th Thermal Fluids Engineering Conference** on **April 5-8**. Professor Wang from the UNO Mechanical Engineering Department is organizing this conference. There will be over 400 attendees from 20 different countries. Volunteers are needed for setup and registration each day. This is a great opportunity to meet professionals and network. Lunch will be provided and parking will be reimbursed each day you volunteer. If you are interested in volunteering at this event please email me and let me know.

Our annual **SGA Summer Leadership Development Retreat** will be held on **May 26-27** this year. This event is required for executives and strongly encouraged for all other positions! I will be sending more information later, but please put this date on your calendar now!

I have already talked about this, but **ULS day is March 31st**! This sign link is out on social media, and I emailed it to you as well! Please consider signing up!

I was able to get the 14th day class numbers for the Spring Semester to complete the **Annual Reapportionment** for SGA elections. For our new senators, this is the yearly process of dividing the 50 senate seats into the positions required by the constitution. 10 seats are automatically saved for freshman, sophomore, junior, senior, and graduate at large positions. The remaining 40 seats are divided among the 4 colleges and IDS Program. Each college/program is guaranteed 2 seats. Based on this semester's numbers from the Office of Research and Institutional Effectiveness, the senate seats did not change. They are as follows: College of Business Administration-9, College of Engineering- 6, College of Liberal Arts-12, College of Sciences-11, and College of IDS-2. If anyone is interested in seeing all the math behind these numbers, feel free to make an appointment to stop by my office.

Motion to extend time Billiot COLA 6 minutes

Fretz GAL Second

Election season is here, and not just for national elections! (But please vote in those too) Filing for elections will begin Tomorrow, March 5, 2020. Everyone in this room who is not graduating should sign up to run in elections. Senate seats run from Fall-Spring, so this is running for your Fall 2020-Spring 2021 Seat. The position of President and Vice President are also open for you to run for next year. The Speaker of the House position is elected by senators after elections are completed. Stop by the SGA office anytime from March 5-12 to sign up. A student wide email will go out first of next week as well. **Election**

Commission will also be on the Senate Agenda for next week. Before the end of this week you will receive a list of individuals for appointment to that board. These are the people who will hear complaints about elections. Please take the time to email these individuals any questions you may have so that you can come to the SGA meeting prepared to vote. This is crucial to the timeline and fairness of our election process. Normally we would have wanted to present those people tonight, but Spring Break got in the way of that process. **General Voting** will take place March 19-20. A fulltime line will be provided in the mass email and to all candidates, but I will also answer any question you have!

And I now yield the rest of my time for questions.

Cao COLA- Dr.Wang? has people coming from out of the country and not feed off of the coronavirus scare but will they be prohibited from campus, and as an asian american I feel like---- Also what are the shifts.

Joy Ballard- I do not know I can pass this along and see about restrictions. I do agree that there has been fear mongering around this. The shifts are like two hour shifts that are for checking in and making baskets.

Julianne Romero- The president of the university sent out an email like an hour ago about the nations that are restricted to travel so that might be a good place to look.

Bessie Lair COE- I have some information about that conference, he sent out an email to all the engineering students so basically if you volunteer during the shifts you will get free lunches. You are also just setting up displays for them it is real easy and you can network too.

Phillips JAL- You were talking about the retreat that was required, can you repeat the dates?

Joy Ballard- May 26th-27th ; it will be at tall timbers in alexandria.

Billiot COLA- You were talking about a nomination, there are 30 spots, what is this for?

TIME billiot extend 3 minutes

Second of unknown senators

Joy Ballard- Yes, there is 30 spots for Proud Privateers you nominate either a faculty or staff member, I have to buy presents for the nominations. I sent a form a couple of days ago to fill out.

Billiot COLA- WHat are we nominating them for?

Joy Ballard- Its to recognize people that we don't thank at UNO.

Billiot COLA- When is it?

Ballard- April 2nd at 6PM

Phillips JAL- Is there an attire?

Joy Ballard- Business Casual, just look presentable.

Motion to be recognized senator yarbrough COS

Fretz gal second 22/29

VIII. Old Business

a. Driftwood Hiatus Resolution- Motion to table this until the next meeting. C Lair COE

Second Bessie Lair COE

Oppose Cao COLA - I feel like this has been an ongoing discussion for SGA unless someone can provide an accurate reason why we need to table I do not think we need to table this any longer. I don't think it will do us any good. I think pretending and brushing something away is an unhealthy culture. I feel like whenever there are issues and problems being addressed we should talk about it in the moment. This was sent out like 2 weeks ago, and it was supposed to be talked about before Mardi Gras, then after mardi gras this has been going on too long.

Leblanc COLA- It was requested that the resolution be tabled due to the fact that driftwood will be able to make the meeting next meeting to come talk to us. If there is still an opposition we can vote.

Cao COLA- I have another question-

Ballard Adv- Point of Order- There is a motion on the floor, and an opposition we need to vote on the motion before further discussion.

Hand vote for motion being tabled:

17 yes 1 no 2 abstentions

Leblanc COLA- Now we can ask questions right

Ballard Adv- NO we can re discuss in open forum.

Cao COLA- POI- Is there a certain amount of time something can be tabled in the rules?

Ballard Adv- It says anything can be tabled as many times it needs to with proper cause. We are trying to give the Driftwood time to come and defend themselves.

Cao COLA- POI is there a definition anywhere on what proper cause is?

Ballard adv- That is a student question as this is student government.

Leblanc COLA- That is a parliamentarian question and since I am VPLA right now I can ask the temporary Parliamentarian on what proper cause means.

Billiot COLA- There is never a specific definition of cause, cause is a relative term and it is for each individual issue for senators to determine what cause is. Apparently there is 17 senators that have determined that cause is sufficient therefore they have voted based on the cause stated to table the motion. So apparently 17 people has determined the cause is sufficient.

Cao COLA- My question isn't what is cause my question is how many times will it be tabled based on this cause and how many times will we allow it to be tabled.

Billiot COLA- It's an excellent time to ask this. You asked a question to the advisor and the advisor directed the question to me ; as to the specific definition to cause that I answered.

Cao COLA- Well she directed it to the entire community of governance.

Leblanc COLA- SHe directed it to governance however;

Cao COLA- But not to him the entire committee

Fretz GAL- *undetectable*

Leblanc COLA- However that will be given to the temporary parliamentarian.

Ballard Adv- I hear you and your points are valid but it is also valid to say that today 17 senators have found cause to postpone and table this until next meeting, if you want to bring to governance to say that we need to set rules on tabling , that is fair, but for the purposes of this meeting democracy has spoken.

Snow COE- I think the most valid point being made was it for the sake of Driftwood being there next time, so it is for the benefit of driftwood and i think that like because of the vote and given the ability to have a more aggregated input--

Cao COLA- Point of order, This is not a discussion this is all point of inquiries to the advisor and questions for the advisor not an open discussion. I think we should move forward.

IX. New Business (6min + 10min Q&A; 3min Amendments; 3min Opposed + 3min For)

a. Black Professional Experience Bill-

Leblanc talked about this so Billiot stepped into Speaker.

Leblanc COLA- I am also president of the Theta Phi Chapter at UNO and there are guest speakers. This is a bill to allocate \$420.05 from the Senate Operating Account to assist Theta Phi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. in paying for food for a discussion panel titled "The Black Professional Experience" which will be hosted on March 18, 2020 in the Library Room 407. The Theta Phi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. are registered with the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership; The event is necessary to the UNO community because it will bring together all students to talk with African American professionals regarding how to be successful while in college and beyond. Some of these professionals will be UNO alumni; The event will be publicized around campus and via social media.

Questions: none

Roll call vote

Alford, W- Yes
Billiot, M- Yes
Cannon, K- Yes
Cao, N- Abstain
Crenshaw, D- Yes
Fretz, H-Yes
Jackson, K- Yes by Proxy
Johnson, S- Yes
Karkoutli, D- Yes
Lair, B-Yes
Lair, C-Yes
Leblanc, D-Yes
Mott, B- Yes by Proxy
Pitalo, C-Abstain by Proxy
Phillips, L-Yes
Rusnak, A-Yes
Smith, Bradley- Yes by Proxy
Snow, C- Yes
Stackhouse, M- Yes
Thamard, Y-Yes by Proxy
Vitali, J- Yes
Yarbrough, T- Yes

20 yes 2 abstentions 0 no

This bill passes

b. BizCarnival Spring 2020 Bill-Clotilde Lair is co sponsoring the bill in absence of Bradley Smith This is a bill to allocate \$725.00 from the Senate Operating Account to assist the College of Business Executive Council in the Business Carnival which will be hosted on March 10, 2020, 11:00am to 2:00pm, and located outside of Kirschman Hall. The College of Business Executive Council are registered with the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership; The Business Carnival is necessary to the UNO community because it increases awareness in student involvement within the College of Business; The event will include “Dunk the Administration” which will raise donations and awareness to the UNO Privateer Food Pantry; UNO students, faculty, staff, and all others are invited to attend

Questions:

Cao COLA- Has this event been advertised yet? Is it open to everyone and will it be advertised with sga on the advertisement.

Lair C COE- It is not my bill but what i can say it is open to everyone and i am not sure about advertising i know they had the event before and they had a fairly good turnout.

Christine President- Just because I am in the college of business it has been advertised and announced within the people of the college of business. I don't think it has been mass emailed. But last year it was successful

POI Leblanc COLA- any funding we give has to be open to the entire information?

Ballard Adv- correct

Leblanc POI COLA- If they are not sending this to the entire student body can we still fund this?

Ballard- we fund student orgs all the time that don't have access to send things to the entire student body. No its not a rule that is enforceable . It is up to you to decide if the ability to not send emails is enough to not fund this bill.

Cao COLA POI- I was under the impression that we cannot fund events that are fundraising.

Ballard Adv- We are allowed to fund things that fundraise for non profit groups, or causes. Like philanthropy or privateer pantry. We cannot fund fundraisers to go into an organization's bank account.

Phillips JAL- What exactly does this money go to?

Lair, C COE- Its for the dunk tank that is \$225 and the dining is \$500 that equals to \$725.

Cao COLA POI- SO how do we guarantee that we make sure the money goes to charitable causes. On the bill it says to the privateer pantry, are we just supposed to trust that is where the money is going?

Ballard Adv- It is a hard spot. I sit on the committee on privateer pantry, and we did receive their check from last year from the carnival. So we trust them.

Cao COLA- Okay because they are getting cash so how do we ensure they are giving you all the money.

Christine Pres- It is up to anybody in SGA to ensure that SGA is on their marketing material.

No amendments

Oppose:

Support: Phillips JAL- I support i went last year it was nice and i enjoyed it

Roll call vote:

Alford, W- Yes

Billiot, M- Yes

Cannon, K- Yes

Cao, N- Yes

Crenshaw, D- Yes

Fretz, H-Yes

Jackson, K- Yes by Proxy

Johnson, S- Yes

Karkoutli, D- Yes

Lair, B-Yes

Lair, C-Yes

Leblanc, D-Yes

Mott, B- Yes by Proxy

Pitalo, C-Abstain by Proxy

Phillips, L-Yes

Rusnak, A-Yes
Smith, Bradley- Abstain by Proxy
Snow, C- Yes
Stackhouse, M- Yes
Thamard, Y-Yes by Proxy
Vitali, J- Yes
Yarbrough, T- Yes

2 abstentions 20 yes 0 no bill passes.

c. Tropical 7s Rugby Bill-
Struck from the agenda for no sponsoring senator
Motion made by billiot
Johnson second

Cao COLA- If someone sponsors it last minute can we amend the agenda to keep it.
Ballard- Its already been motioned it can be added for next week. This should've been caught in committees.

Leblanc COLA- We have been told previously that a bill can still be voted on without a sponsor. As a result it has come to the floor without a senator, i said we should always make sure a bill has a senator sponsoring it to avoid this from happening.

Fretz GAL- I completely agree that's what i meant in my report when i said we need organization and send out information for the committees so we don;t get confused. Sometimes we don't get sponsors , sometimes we don't get invoices.

Cao COLA- I was going to call point of order unless it was a legitimate point of inquiry. We have had a lot of unnecessary point of orders happening and it is dragging the conversation down and if we are about all these rules than we need to follow all of them or none of it.

Fretz GAL- I don't think that Point of Order was necessary; we are here to express ourselves as a student government i was just stating a concern that I had with my committee that I am ahead of based on the information that was just said. I did not make that a discussion i just wanted to be clear of what was going on.

Ballard Adv- I am making this real clear this is student government you can call order on eachother, i only call order when you break actual rules, as parliamentary rules i will not call it if you are being petty.

X. Nominations and Appointments

XI. Open Forum (12min; for the betterment of SGA)

Rusnak COS- If you guys remember I wanted to plant trees on campus. I got a -- sheet for all the communications. I have a few concerns or questions, I do not participate in privateer plunge or events on campus really, so it could interfere with swampball, if you play swamp ball and can help me because I can't plant trees because of roots where they dig the pits. Also if you know if anyone still plays soccer right there between the liberal arts building and business milneburg. I wanted to plant them to have shade on that cross walk and sidewalk. If you have any input let me know

Christine Pres- They play cricket or some other sport, and i am also willing to help out. I do know that people were upset when the walkways got put up. Because they liked the grassy area but thats just some feedback.

Rusnak COS-I do know that the president likes the way the oak trees are positioned. I want to meet with the dean of students and the agricultural specialist to get more details in order because i have been emailing both of them back and forth and every little detail takes so much time. I want to arrange a meeting and if you want to participate let me know.

Cao COLA- I am 100% for planting trees but is there any action to keep the trees alive because Nigel planted trees and they all just died and as a vegan and an equal person its one thing to plant trees but what is sga going to do to ensure these trees stay alive.

Rusnak COS- Not all the trees have died some of the trees died, its nature that sometimes they die. You plant them you water them and you can maybe wrap them around to not freeze in the winter, but there is not much you can do to ensure they don't die you just hope for the best.

Billiot COLA- There are numerous nonprofits in New Orleans that are specifically for planting trees, to prevent storm water and prevent flooding, specifically the planning department at uno, I am a Masters student for Urban Planning the president of the student organization Nicole Nelson, if you would like to work with the planning school, we can help pout you in contact with nonprofits that know specifically what trees to plant when to plant them and to ensure they continue to grow. It could be a good collaborative effort with the non profit and uno.

Cao COLA- I wanted to bring up the driftwood did anyone formally invite them to the meeting? ALso whether or not they have been informed about our opinions.

Christine Pres- It was a resolution that came from the execs furst, I have been in contact with the driftwood consistently. I have been trying to give them a chance to come , they wanted to come the first time it was on the agenda but it was all rushed and we didn't want to be rushed. SOme senators requested to have time to alk to students as mucha s they could. The resolution is clear and that is exactly what we are voting on, it will be a yes or no if you agree with it as it is written. This is just a statement on where we stand as students to help out the administration to make a decision because they are not financially feasible. But this does not put an end to the driftwood or the discussion of it.

Marvin- I'm wondering if my senator application is active

Advisor Joy Ballard- If you are appointed this semester it is active until may and you must run as a senator in the election this spring to be a senator next year.

Marvin- I applied in fall 2019 and i attended 2 meetings in the fall but it kept being pushed back and that discouraged me a lot. So i was wondering if that was still active.

Advisor Joy Ballard- That is normally not a problem and i don't see why it would be i will pass it to the VPLA.

Cao COLA- I think that for future senators I would really appreciate it if we do not continue to table the driftwood and we don't table it if they don't show up.

Johnson COLA- I would just like to reiterate it was distinctly said that they would be here next week and it would only be tabled until next week for that purpose. It is not tabled indefinitely just until next week when they are here.

Fretz GAL-I have a couple of questions how many absences are allowed

Leblanc COLA- 3

Fretz GAL- I think there are people we need to start removing because of absences. If that could be something handled I would appreciate that.

Leblanc COLA- The VPLA said he is lenient on absences because of the time change and because of people having classes during the meeting. That was what was relayed to me as parliamentarian. He has full discretion on how to handle people being absent. I did say it is time to start looking at those. We will discuss this probably next week.

Fretz GAL- Curse words, profanity, is any of that allowed in roberts rules.

Julianne POI- Decorum is in the governing documents in SGA. Decorum is how you represent SGA in meetings or outside of meetings and affects the way you talk and speak in meetings. It is up to you all as senators to determine when Decorum is broken and you can call point of order on senators. The VPLA has discretion in the meeting whether or not it can be

Fretz GAL- If we think a senator is affecting the meeting or disrupting roberts rules we call point of order?

Leblanc COLA- Yes ; the vpla also has power to remove people from the meetings but being that this is temporary for me I won't practice that because i don't want to seem as too much.

President Bourgeois- With all this being said we are voting soon on new exec positions a new vpla, president , vice president and senators. You see how important all these positions are and tell your friends and read up on the rules and the documents, and be familiar because this is the time for ----- to happen.

XII. Adjournment 6:13 PM