

Senate 2.16.22

Wed, 2/16 6:34PM 1:04:52

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

sga, email, students, questions, senator, events, student body, uno, people, campus, organizations, liberal arts, pro tempore, open forum, funds, meeting, speak, senate, present, report


SPEAKERS


VPLA Goldstein, Senator Lemons, Senator Dazet, Appointee Hartlin, Clerk of Senate Corcoran, Senator Moss, Senator Deffendall, Senator Hymel, Advisor Courseault, Senator Metzler, Senator Smith, Senator Crenshaw, Senator LeBeau, Senator Fornatoro, Guest Felix, President Lemelle, Senator Mott, Pro Tempore Mott, Senator Sattar, Senator Sakib, Senator Duong, Senator Martinez, Vice President Charles, Senator Nguyen, Appointee Wilcuts, Senator Helbing, Parliamentarian Hinnawi


- V** VPLA Goldstein 00:00
I call this meeting to order at 5:03pm. Our Parliamentarian and Pro Tempore are present so I will now call the roll. When I call your name please respond that you're present. Dwayne Crenshaw
- S** Senator Crenshaw 02:01
Present.
- V** VPLA Goldstein 02:04
Candace Dazet.
- S** Senator Dazet 02:06
Here.
- V** VPLA Goldstein 02:08
Lukas Deffendall.
- S** Senator Deffendall 02:10


 Present.


 VPLA Goldstein 02:12
Julia Duong.

 Senator Duong 02:14
Here.


 VPLA Goldstein 02:21
Alicia Helbing.


 Senator Helbing 02:23
Present.

 VPLA Goldstein 02:25
Azizah Hinnawi.


 Parliamentarian Hinnawi 02:26
Present.


 VPLA Goldstein 02:28
Daniel Hunsaker.


 Pro Tempore Mott 02:30
Present by proxy.

 VPLA Goldstein 02:32
Jenna Hymel.


 Senator Hymel 02:35


 Senator Hymer 02:55
Present.


 VPLA Goldstein 02:38
Nhi Le Nhi Le. Twanna LeBeau

 Senator LeBeau 02:48
Present.


 VPLA Goldstein 02:51
Cooper Lemons.


 Senator Lemons 02:52
Present.

 VPLA Goldstein 02:54
Michael Mariana. Michael Mariana. Oscar Martinez.

 Senator Martinez 03:04
Here.

 VPLA Goldstein 03:06
Chloe Metzler.

 Senator Metzler 03:09
Here.

 VPLA Goldstein 03:12
Jordan Moss.



S Senator Moss 03:13
Here.

V VPLA Goldstein 03:16
Brendan Mott.

P Pro Tempore Mott 03:17
Present.

V VPLA Goldstein 03:29
Samuel Rivas. Samuel Rivas. Tara Rizzi.

S Senator Helbing 03:39
Present by proxy

V VPLA Goldstein 03:45
Mohammed Mohiuddin Sakib.

S Senator Sakib 03:47
Present.

V VPLA Goldstein 03:49
Naw Safrin Sattar. Naw Safrin Sattar. Da' Yanah Smith.

S Senator Smith 04:03
Here.

V VPLA Goldstein 04:05
and Mahaut Sorlin.

P Parliamentarian Hinnawi 04:07

Present by proxy

V VPLA Goldstein 04:19

With 19 out of 25 senators present, we meet quorum. Are there any corrections or changes to today's agenda?

C Clerk of Senate Corcoran 04:28

Point of information, Henry Nguyen is present by Zoom.

V VPLA Goldstein 04:36

With 20 out of 25 senators present, we meet quorum. If there are no objections, the agenda is approved. We don't have minutes, so there are no corrections there. Are there any senator communication or announcements?

S Senator Smith 04:56

Yes, Da' Yanah Smith, School of IDS, I do want to announce that I have been communicating with my fellow now school of IDS, we made the announcement last November that we are officially now a school instead of just a program, which is very wonderful. We will be having a revealing of that program on April 13, 2022, and we will have more details to follow behind that or in regards to that. So I'm excited I hope that I have you all support with that because it's a wonderful moment, just to have something like that come be here at the University of New Orleans that can allow students who are in and of my program to be able to work- they have peers, who they can connect to and be able to see their faces face-to-face at the event and also be able to connect with different alumni as well.

V VPLA Goldstein 06:01

Are there any other senator communications or announcements?

P Pro Tempore Mott 06:05

Brendan Mott, Pro Tempore, I just wanted to let everybody know that our game room, that is sponsored by our student government, so sponsored by us, is officially open. I work there as well as Senator Brett Fornatoro and we are open from 10am to 8pm Monday through Thursday.

S Senator LeBeau 06:35

Twanna LeBeau, College of Liberal Arts, I'm just here to inform you guys that the Progressive Black Student Union here on campus is hosting open forum today in the Ponchartrain Halls, 4th Floor Lounge. We also had the dates- a week from tomorrow is our Dapper Down Thursday. Basically, come to the event and network with people in the UC, there's music, big game pieces. And then going on Friday we're doing an appreciation things for the staff here on campus. and then Saturday we're coming together to support the basketball team.

V VPLA Goldstein 07:22
Are there any other senator communications or announcements?

S Senator Smith 07:25
Da' Yanah Smith, School of IDS, I had a question for Twanna. What time are these events? Do I have an outline schedule?

S Senator LeBeau 07:37
So we have an Instagram you can follow us @uno.pbsu Tonight, the forum is from 7 to 10pm. Thursday the Dapper Down in the UC is at 12:30.

S Senator Smith 07:53
And they have this week things posted on the Instagram?

S Senator LeBeau 07:55
Yeah, it's on the Instagram.

S Senator Smith 07:57
Ok.

V VPLA Goldstein 08:01
Are there any non-senator communications or announcements?

P Pro Tempore Mott 08:05
Brendan Mott, Pro Tempore, motion for Naw Safrin Sattar to be recognized.

V VPLA Goldstein 08:10
Can I get a second?

S Senator Moss 08:11
Jordan Moss, Junior Senator-at-Large, I second that.

S Senator Nguyen 08:14
Second.

V VPLA Goldstein 08:20
Are there any non-senator communications or announcements? Okay, Pro Tempore, do you have a report?

P Pro Tempore Mott 08:31
I do. Hello everyone, so I just have a short and sweet report. So for all of you who are on the Governance Committee, we have agreed that we will be meeting at 2pm on Fridays and we're next door, Room 206 in the UC. And it will be basically be talking about like constitutional and SGA law related stuff and what we're doing to try to make SGA better. These meetings are considered an executive session so you have to be- they are not recorded and they are not publicized. Thank you.

V VPLA Goldstein 09:11
Does anyone have any questions for Brendan? do any of the committees have a- or do the committee heads have a report?

S Senator LeBeau 09:26
Hey guys, Twanna LeBeau, College of Liberal Arts, I'm also the finance committee head. You will be receiving an email from me after the meeting so I can give you guys yourthe best time to meet. You're just going to fill out something and it also when I get that done, then we're going to meet in person and it's also available in Zoom but I would rather in person, if you're on my community. But that's all I have.

V VPLA Goldstein 09:50
Anyone have any questions for Twanna? Any other committee heads have a report?

P

Pro Tempore Mott 10:05

I have a report too.

V

VPLA Goldstein 10:06

For what-

P

Pro Tempore Mott 10:08

Housing and dining. Hello, it's me again, Brandon Mott. One quick little thing is that on Monday at 5pm in the courtyard between the two Ponchartrain Halls, there will be an open forum where residents as well as other people who are interested in housing on campus can go into the courtyard, talk with the housing staff members and the dining staff members directly. And we will also be having activities and games sponsored by Ponchartrain Halls.

V

VPLA Goldstein 10:38

Anyone have any questions for Brendan? President Lemelle, do you have a report?

P

President Lemelle 11:01

Hi, guys, so I do have a report. It's not long- Ok, so first I want to say, hey, I hope everyone is doing well. I know the semester is just starting, but it can be crazy. So, the first thing I want to talk about is the financial aid issue. I've been getting a lot of emails about that and I'm seeing a lot of stuff on social media. I want you guys to know that I am on top of that. I've emailed- Well, the first step I did was talk to the exec board about it so like what steps we should take. And the second thing I did was I emailed all the student body presidents in our system, so that would be UNO, Northwestern, Southeastern, all those colleges, to see if they got the same email with the same issue. They have not gotten that information. So I don't know if that means that their school is just not as communicative with them, so that could be one thing. I'm waiting to hear back about that. And the second thing could be that UNO is just not doing what they have to do to make sure that we get what we need. So the first thing, I'm waiting on the other schools to get back to me because I asked the other Presidents to collaborate and reach out to their financial aid to see if they're dealing with the same problem. So that's the first one. Secondly, I have reached out to Dr. Nicklow and Dr. Golz, and Dr. Amouzegar: that's all of our administration. I sent them an email, I can read if you guys like. Just let me know after I finish my report, if you want to hear the email. So- on top of that, I know that this is a big issue, not only for us, but also for our whole student body because this isn't the first time this has happened this year. This is the second time. And I'm sure you guys remember that last semester after Hurricane Ida, our refunds were nowhere to be found. And I'm not sure if you guys remember but randomly Dr. Nicklow emailed us all and kind of gave clarification of where things are. That was SGA, so good job. I mean, the exec board kind of did that. But that's cool. So that's what we did the last time, so I intend on doing the same thing again. Even if Dr.

Nicklow can't get us or whoever can't get us on our funds like now, I think that our student body deserves an explanation at least, because the email that we received about the Federal issue is very vague. And I'm not really satisfied with that answer. Especially since- if the federal funds can't be issued, I'm sure there are multiple students on campus who get scholarships directly from UNO, and also scholarships or whether it be a stipend or whatever. The HEERF fund, for example, comes directly from UNO. So those things should still be able to be disbursed if it's just a federal issue. I also mentioned that in the email so I'm getting on top of that. I'm sure y'all heard a lot about it. I'm sure you've all talked to people about it. It's an issue. We're all depending on that money. And I don't think that this should be happening again. So I'm handling that and I'll keep you guys updated on that. And let me know if you want me to read the email. I will. Also this morning I had a Diversity and Inclusion meeting, I don't know if you guys remember me speaking about the Faculty Senate meeting last time, but we also- I also meet with Diversity and Inclusion, which is a board of faculty and staff members that kind of handle equality for- whether it be gender, race, disability services, all those things. So today they were kind of talking about how they feel like everything at UNO was kind of separated and they want to be more in- what's the word?



Integrated.

P

President Lemelle 14:30

Intertwined. I don't know who said it, integrated, intertwined with the student body because they don't know what's going on. So organizations on campus that do advocate for equality for different demographics on campus have events and they don't even know about it. So I just want to let you guys know that as the student representative on that board, I let them know that half of the students don't even know they exist. No offense to them, but that's just true. You guys know what Diversity- Have you ever heard that board? That's cool. Well, that's one person that knows what that is out of 20 of us, that's not good. So I told them that and they said that if we have any events coming up or anything like that, that there is an email that you can send the times and dates to, and it'll be sent out in the UNO newsletter that we get every week and also be on the UNO calendar. So for example, tonight, PBSU is hosting an open forum. That would be a good event for students to have on the newsletter, so they know about it, and also for Diversity and Inclusion to maybe help out or maybe participate in that if they want to be more included. So with that being said, if you guys have any events that you know of, whether it be within SGA, outside of SGA: send them to me, so that I can upload them to those documents so that they can be sent out to our student body, and my email is sgapresident@uno.edu or if you have my personal email, y'all can send it there, too. But I just want to try and get those organizations who are hosting important things like that, get the word out so that we can get a correlation between the faculty and staff and the student body because there's a big disconnect right now. So that's the first thing. I also had a chat with Amy King today, this morning. In that Diversity and Inclusion meeting, I mentioned that one of the main things that I hear about is how hard it is to access disability services on campus. They're here, they're there, but it's really hard to find them to get the accommodations you need or access, or even ask questions and see if you're eligible for those things. And she seemed really shocked. I don't know if she was upset or not, but she seemed really shocked by that. So I just

told- she said that she wants to collaborate. And so we're emailing about that. So along with that I really ask for you guys to send me. Okay, I'll get to you after and when I yield my time. I really want you guys to send me examples of-

P

Pro Tempore Mott 17:04

Time's up.

P

President Lemelle 17:05

Oh, you're saying time is up I thought you had a question.

P

Pro Tempore Mott 17:07

Actually both but yeah. But Brendan Mott, Pro Tempore, I motioned to extend Amber's time by six minutes.

S

Senator LeBeau 17:17

Twanna Lebeau, College of Liberal Arts, I second that.

P

President Lemelle 17:19

Thank you guys, I appreciate it. So I really would like- I often ask for emails, but this one's really important to me. If you guys have any examples of students or friends who have dealt with the struggle of getting Disability Services, so that when I do meet with her, it's not me just saying like, 'Oh, yes, here's the plan,' I want to have concrete evidence or resources or if they have emails that show that nothing has been done for them: anything that y'all can think of, it doesn't matter, anything like that, please send it to my email so that I can use that not necessarily against her, but just to give her feedback on what the students are seeing and what they're dealing with, so that we can move forward and progress on that. So please email me those examples. Or if you have your own personal feedback that you would like me to relay to her, let me know and I'll be the person to let her know this is what people are saying. Also a reminder, I spoke about this in my last meeting, the faculty standing meeting occurs once a month. So there's one coming up; the next one is going to be on Zoom, but the following one is going to be in person and at that one I think that'd be really important to have the face of the student body there. So if anybody is interested in joining me at that meeting. I would really appreciate it and I think that it would show that we're really trying to work towards building that relationship between faculty and staff and students. I have had one senator reach out to me and say they want to join us already. So if anybody else is interested, please email me and let me know because I would love to have y'all join me in that and if you have anything you want to say at this meeting, I'm on the board so I can request to be put on the agenda so I can say or ask or whatever questions y'all might have, or comments or feedback, or anything that. So just really email me let me know or chat with me in the SGA Office. My office hours are on the Outlook calendar. And finally the exec board has a few ideas for events coming up. We did

have one planned for the beginning of the semester, but it got cancelled due to COVID, things were spiking up towards the beginning of spring and administration and advisors decided that we should probably wait on it. So we do have some things like that coming up which we would really like the support of the Senate to help us execute these events successfully so I'll keep you guys posted on that. Kaite, Angelo, Maggie and myself, we'll let you guys know if we need anything and those of you who have time or the ability to help us out, let me know and I yield my time for questions. And if y'all want me to read the email.

S

Senator Mott 19:57

Point of information, Brendan Mott, Pro Tempore, I thought I would just mention that I was previously trying to get Amy King to come talk to us, like as the Senate, but trying to get a date is very difficult. So honestly, I might save this for open forum. But maybe during open forum, I could talk to the rest of the Senate about, hey, we need to figure out a date for Amy King to come talk to us about the culmination of things. So that's something that's actually been being worked on already. And last semester, I was trying to work on a resolution, it didn't really get to happen, all that kind of stuff. So I'm just trying to- I'm working on that as well. Actually, I would love to collaborate with you on a project like that.

P

President Lemelle 20:32

Ok perfect.

S

Senator Martinez 20:35

Oscar Martinez, Senator-at-Large, I just had a general question. Can we have a timeline on the financial aid situation, days, weeks?

P

President Lemelle 20:45

That's why I sent the email because it's ridiculous if you ask me. I don't mean to be harsh, but that's ridiculous. And not only that, it's the second time to happen this semester. So not only have I had to get on them once, this is the second time I'm doing it. So I just feel like the lesson should have been learned already. And it hasn't. So now moving forward with the next day. So no, there is no timeline, there is no actual reason. It's just a malfunction with the federal system. And that's all I have, but I'm going to try to get to the bottom of it for us, because I don't think that this is okay. Yeah.


S


Senator Martinez 21:22


Just one more question. So, was it like, did they just expect it to work the day of disbursement? Or did they not?


S


Senator Martinez 21:31


 Senator Martinez 21:31
That's What- let me read the email.

 Senator Martinez 21:33
I feel like if they would have actually looked at system and realize it changed, then we'd all have our money by now

 President Lemelle 21:39
I totally agree. So this is what I- Oh, Jordan, did you want to ask your question first?

 Senator Moss 21:44
No you can go ahead.

 President Lemelle 21:44
Okay, "Dr. Nicklow, I'm reaching out regarding the email recently sent out to students regarding the delay in the disbursement of refunds. I have a few concerns about the timing of this email. My first question is regarding the idea that it was communicated to the students that funds will begin to be processed on February 14. The email that stated the university had encountered an issue was sent out on February 14. However, it also stated that in the email that the Bursar's Office has been working with the US Department of Education to access these funds. Which leads me to my next point, that that if the Bursar has known about this issue for some time now, why is it communicated to students the day funds were expected to begin being disbursed. Along with this, the email specifically states that the issue is due to a new federal database system that is preventing the university from accepting federal funds. But that being said, Can you please give me clarity on why the funds that come directly from the university are unable to be dispersed; these being student scholarships or HEERF funds? I've reached out to other Student Body Presidents in our system and none of them have been made aware of this issue, is it just our university? Finally, I'd like to point out that this is not the first time within a year our student body has been let down by the Bursar's Office. It is the second time in the second semester this has occurred. Students are struggling to eat, pay bills, and live day-to-day lives. Many of us depend on refund checks, including myself. In the midst of dealing with this, I'm expected to keep up with school, attending class, and being active on campus and do well. I have been asked and sent many complaints on social media of students expressing frustration with the situation. I think it is important that we review this issue and see if there's anything we can do about this for our students. That's what I said and hopefully we get a good response.

 Did he email you back?

P

President Lemelle 23:33

Oh, no, I sent it today. It took me a long time to draft it out and make sure it wasn't rude. I want to sound educated, so I just took my time and I sent it around four, so I'm pretty sure he's out of office or something. But hopefully tomorrow morning, I get a response. He's usually pretty quick about it, especially whenever I'm upset. So hopefully he gets back to me and I'll definitely keep you guys updated on that. So we'll see. What did you have to ask?

S

Senator Moss 24:03

Oh, Jordan Moss, Junior-at-Large, point of inquiry, when you were talking about the Diversity and Inclusion board. It made me think about Privateers for Equality; and you may or may not be able to answer this but we haven't been acknowledged as an official organization on campus and that puts a pause on a lot of things we can do and I'm President of that organization. And we're kind of at a stand still now, so do you know who I'm supposed to go to?

P

President Lemelle 24:28

Have you filed or not filed but have you applied or signed Privateers for Equality up through SIL yet?

S

Senator Moss 24:36

Yeah. We did the whole application, the Constitution. We did the little quiz that they have and we haven't heard back.

P

President Lemelle 24:47

Okay, Tiffany?

A

Advisor Courseault 24:48

Point of information I can check on that for you.

P

President Lemelle 24:52

Because I realize that as one of the clubs, y'all do a lot of community service and I think that that is one thing that is really slept on. So I commend for that, and definitely Ms. Tiffany's gonna check on that for you cause that's not cool either. I didn't know that your hadn't been acknowledged yet that's not ok.

P

President Lemelle 25:10

Yeah, we can't ask for funding for events we wanna do kind of like, yeah, that's okay. Yes,

S Senator Mott 25:22

I have one more point of information, Brendan Mott, Pro Tempore, I want to give everyone else a chance to speak. This is kind of funny, but when I got that email, I actually called financial aid like the federal people, and they said they didn't know what was happening. So just to let y'all know-

P President Lemelle 25:36

There you go, well...

P Pro Tempore Mott 25:38

Because I was that mad, and it's kind of funny, but I was like, Okay, if it's an issue with the federal government, I'm gonna call the federal government.

P President Lemelle 25:45

That's all I have for today. I will definitely keep y'all updated on what they say and what they respond with. I know it's not my call, but I do want to apologize that this is happening. It's very unfortunate. I'm also struggling. So we're in the same boat. So please email me. Remember the things I asked y'all to email me about, the Diversity and Inclusion, the Disabilities is really important one for me. So like, I want to make sure I have facts. So just let me know what y'all have to say. And then that's pretty much all I have if y'all are done. If y'all come up with any questions, email me and my office hours on my Outlook. So that's it. Thank you.

V VPLA Goldstein 26:36

Vice President Charles, do you have a report?

V Vice President Charles 26:39

Hey, everyone, I know I'm usually in person, but I'm sorry, I couldn't make it. My report, I will begin with the numbers. The Senate Operating Budget still has the same number of around \$19,000. For the Senate Operating Budget, it is now time for the annual fiscal budget for next year for budget requests. Tiffany and I have been working on the email to send out to students and organizations and department chairs on requesting budgets, funds for the next year. That email will go out tomorrow, and we'll be able to accept budget requests from tomorrow until March 30. Some of you will be on the committee and we'll be sending out emails closer to the date when we meet. So this is a great time for you to survey your student body and get organizations ready for next year and equipped with funds. That's the biggest thing we're

focusing on. Then, far as budgeting, the next part is the retreat. I have been planning a retreat for the Senate, the second retreat. It will be in March. I do not have an actual date yet, but we do have the event; it will be an escape room. We all will be going to an escape room and I'll have more details to come. But it'll be March, I will provide that information fully detailed at the next meeting. That's pretty much it for my report. As far as the money situation with the Bursar's Office, I think this is a great time for you guys to actually use your legislative power and abilities as senators to actually do something about this. And defend not only yourself, but the students that we represent. It's something that it's a big deal and as President Lemelle eloquently stated that this is not the first time that this has happened. It's unfortunate and we all need to you know, come together and strategize on how we can move this university forward. And I think that concludes my report. I will end it with a quote as I did last meeting. "Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember you have within you the strength, the patience and the passion to reach for the stars and to change the world." Harriet Tubman. That concludes my report.

V

VPLA Goldstein 28:54

Does anybody have any questions for Angelo? Okay, moving on. My report is pretty brief, as well. Just a matter of technicalities, an effort to maintain decorum during our Senate proceedings, if you'd like to speak please raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged before speaking. Please do not interrupt anybody while they're speaking even if you're using the correct Robert's Rules. It's stated in our constitution that you need to be acknowledged before you speak so don't just blurt out point of inquiry, point of information. That's just to make everything flow a little bit easier. Also, if you're attending via zoom, please either use the little hand raise feature if you want to speak or type your name and college and your statement or question into the chat and the Clerk of Senate who's monitoring the chat will speak on your behalf. The next item in my report is basically just following up on what Amber and Angelo said about the Bursars email. Obviously, we're all very frustrated, the delay and the disbursement of our excess aid funds. As Angelo was saying, we want to encourage all of you to use your legislative instruments that you have available to voice the frustrations to administration and just to speak for the rest of the student body. If you have questions about what these legislative instruments at your disposal are, please either email me or come by my office hours and we can talk about what exactly can be done. Lastly, and I think Tiffany may also touch on this. If you have- if an organization comes to you with a bill requesting funding, you have to get official invoices or purchase orders or quotes from the company that they will be ordering items or services from. So we can't just take a bill that has a budget breakdown, it has to also have supporting documents showing basically the pricing from the company. So that's just a another little technical thing. Other than that, I yield the rest of my time for questions.

P

President Lemelle 31:19

So I have a- I guess would be a- I forgot.

V

VPLA Goldstein 31:33

So if nobody has any questions, Maggie is not here, but she left me a brief report for you guys from the Vice President of programming. Tomorrow, from 10am to 3pm in the UC Gallery Lounge Room 201, there's a blood drive. It's in memorial of a faculty member from LSU Health

Sciences' son who died. So go out and save a life. Next, What does Black History mean to you? Come join us in the UC Gallery Lounge, Tuesday, February 22 to help make the Black History Month themed banner, Supplies and drinks will be provided. And then lastly, be on the lookout for updates regarding UNO Next Top Model, which is coming in March. Does anybody have any questions for Maggie? Moving on, Tiffany do you have a report?

A

Advisor Courseault 32:31

I have a few things. The first thing is your T shirts were ordered today. I'm super excited. I mean, it's a T shirt, but hey, who doesn't want a free T shirt? So T shirts were ordered today. So if you have not filled out the form letting me know your T shirt size, please do so. Also Katie sent out the form for Senator Involvement, so if you have not filled out that form, please do so at your earliest convenience. Also, just reiterating what Angelo said, budget requests are- they will be going out tomorrow. So if you know any student organizations, any department that needs funding, please just make sure that they check their emails or if they have not received an email, let us know and Angelo will make sure that they receive the communication. Also, to reiterate what Katie said, Senators please- there's the Constitution, there is information on the website. When it comes down to bills, please, please, please, please, please, we can not reiterate enough, that if you're writing a bill, please make sure that you have supporting documentation because you put myself in Katie in precarious situations if we have to tell someone, hey, this is not going to go to the Rules and Finances Committee because we don't have supporting documentation. So please, before you send anything to Katie to send to the Rules and the Finance Committee to get voted on for bills, please make sure that you include all supporting documentation. Also, the last thing is a pretty light is the parade. I have signed up SGA for the parade. I would love for you guys to just walk in the parade. People can see SGA is here on campus. SAC, they have a buggy or grocery cart. they decorated. How they got the cart I do not know, but here we are. You will be a walking crew. I do know that Vice President Charles said that he will be walking I don't know if the other execs-

P

President Lemelle 34:40

I'll be with the Pom Team but I'll be there.

A

Advisor Courseault 34:43

But it'd be a nice way to let students the student body know that SGA is here on campus, we're here to help. Also, we are expecting a pretty large crowd because people are going to get back into the swing of things. So this will be a great advertisement piece. Also if you are interested in being a senator or running for any office next year, elections will start in March. If you know anyone that's interested in running for Senator position and/or an Exec position, please let them know that the open forum will happen, the election form will happen pretty soon. I will send out all communications for that. Also, I do appreciate those people let me know if they could make it to the Legislative Day on April 4, we're still working out the kinks but again transportation and lunch will be provided. I'm still unsure about the time you're leaving. I've asked numerous times, so as soon as I get that information I will communicate it with you. I yield the rest of my time for questions.

P

President Lemelle 35:49

For the Legislator Day, it happened two years ago now, I think my sophomore year it happened, and we got these polos when we went and I think that was a really good idea if we can come up with funding again, but I was just saying I think we need to get something uniform.

S

Senator LeBeau 36:08

Twanna LeBeau, College of Liberal Arts, point of information, yeah we did get the polos, we picked them up from the president's office so yeah, it was a big thing.

P

Parliamentarian Hinnawi 36:20

Azizah Hinnawi, Graduate-at-Large, point of information, we also got them at other previous legislature days. Every time I got a polo, so it's a thing they always do along with Chick-fil-a breakfast.

S

Senator Smith 36:35

Da'Yanah Smith, School of IDS, quick question. For the parade: what time is that at?

A

Advisor Courseault 36:42

Okay, the parade will be on Tuesday the 22nd. It starts at 12, but you have to line up at 11:30ish, I can send out those details. I would, but I don't have a laptop in front of me, But it is the 22nd, I will send the information out to all the senators it rolls at 12:30 but I'll send out all the information and a sign up sheet. If you can sign up, it would be really great and I will work on getting throws to throw, so you just show up.

S

Senator Mott 37:17

Brendan Mott, Pro Tempore, so my question is I know that some organizations including Orientation Leaders got like emails from April I believe about people who are giving roles for the parade. Is there any updates on that or would I have to talk to April specifically?

A

Advisor Courseault 37:34

You would have to talk to April specifically. Like I know for myself, I sent out an email for all the Homecoming Court so every person- they're doing something different. so yeah, definitely reach out to her. She's pretty fast at reading emails, she'll get back to you. And Da'Yanah had a question about any specific color I don't know if I'll be lucky enough for your T shirts to come in but then again, I don't know if you would want to sweat your T shirt out because it is supposed

to be kind of hot but maybe wear a UNO shirt that just exhibits UNO school pride. Although you may not be feeling pride today but maybe a UNO, a blue shirt to wear if you are interested in walking.

V VPLA Goldstein 38:22

Any other questions for Tiffany? Okay, so there's no New or Old Business, so we will now hear Nominations and Appointments. Will Izabel Wilcuts please come forward for nomination as Senator for the College of Liberal Arts.

S Senator Moss 38:43

Twanna LeBeau, College of Liberal Arts, just a question: can we do them two together?

V VPLA Goldstein 38:50

Like slate them?

S Senator LeBeau 38:51

Yes like put the two together.

V VPLA Goldstein 38:54

Sure, if you want.

A Advisor Courseault 38:56

Point of information, the only thing is that one is on Zoom and one is in person. A person is about to come up so that they can be- they would like to speak in person.

V VPLA Goldstein 39:09

Okay well do you want to just motion to slate?

S Senator Smith 39:15

Twanna LeBeau, College of Liberal Arts, motion to slate the nominees.

S Senator LeBeau 39:20

Jordan Moss, Junior-at-Large, I second that motion.

P

Pro Tempore Mott 39:23

Brendan Mott, Pro Tempore, I do not want to slate the nominees because of what Tiffany just said.

V

VPLA Goldstein 39:28

That he's coming up?

P

Pro Tempore Mott 39:31

Oh, okay, nevermind.

V

VPLA Goldstein 39:32

Yeah, he's on his way up.

A

Advisor Courseault 39:35

I'm messaging now but I do know that he wanted to speak.

V

VPLA Goldstein 39:40

Ok,

A

Advisor Courseault 39:40

So he did want to speak.

A

Advisor Courseault 39:46

Brendan did you hae a question?

S

Senator Mott 39:53

Nevermind. He actually should be up here pretty quick. I was gonna make a motion for recess but we don't need to do that.

V VPLA Goldstein 40:00
So are you cool with Isabel going first?

P Pro Tempore Mott 40:03
Yeah.

V VPLA Goldstein 40:04
So if you just want to come up, introduce yourself and tell people why you want to be a member of Senate.

A Appointee Wilcuts 40:16
Alright. Hello, I'm Isabel Wilcuts I didn't think I was going to speak so I'm like... So this is my second semester being here. I'm in a sorority. I'm about to be a tour guide soon. My major is History.

V VPLA Goldstein 40:40
Why you want to be in Senate.

A Appointee Wilcuts 40:41
Oh, I like to know how student government works and stuff.

V VPLA Goldstein 40:52
Does anybody have any questions for Isabel?

S Senator Martinez 40:58
Oscar Martinez, Senator-at-Large, have you ever been in government before?

A Appointee Wilcuts 41:02
No.



V VPLA Goldstein 41:06
Any other questions?

S Senator Smith 41:10
Da'Yanah Smith, College of IDS, what are you looking forward to learning most about in government?

A Appointee Wilcuts 41:18
See with this meeting, what I've just seen right now I didn't know you guys take care of everything and I think that's pretty cool because now I'm learning what you guys actually do.

S Senator Smith 41:31
Oh okay.

S Senator Moss 41:33
Jordan Moss, Juior-at-Large, are there any particular things that you want to maybe change about the university or work on or anything you noticed so far?

A Appointee Wilcuts 41:51
I am not sure about that.

V VPLA Goldstein 41:56
Any other questions for Isabel? Alright we will discuss for six minutes.

S Senator LeBeau 42:02
The other person still needs to speak.

V VPLA Goldstein 42:07
Oh yeah. So Bryce, actually if you want to come up and address the Senate? Yes, you're good. We slated it.

A Appointee Hartlin 42:19

Appointee Hartlin 42:19

Hello, I am Bryce Hartlin. I work in the game downstairs. I want to be a part of SGA because I was previously a part of it in 2019. I took a step down for personal reasons and now I'm back for grad school and I will be under the College of Liberal Arts. I want to do it because I miss it. I miss making changes instead of complaining and now I want to actually do something again.

V VPLA Goldstein 42:52

Anyone have any questions for Bryce?

S Senator Fornatoro 42:55

Brett Fornatoro, College of Liberal Arts, do you have any legislative experience outside of SGA?

A Appointee Hartlin 43:01

Outside of SGA, no. I don't think so. Not that I can remember other than public speaking.

V VPLA Goldstein 43:13

Any other questions?

S Senator Moss 43:14

Jordan Moss, Junior-at-Large, any other anything about the university that you want to implement if you do become a part of SGA?

A Appointee Hartlin 43:25

There are a lot of things that I would like to change. But a lot of things that I know SGA can't viably do because of outside factors, so anything SGA can change. I have a running list, but I don't have my notebook with me so I can't exactly list them off right now.

V VPLA Goldstein 43:52

Any other questions? So if you guys want to outside we'll call you back in shortly. So we now six minutes for open discussion. Anybody want to say anything about the two nominees?

S Senator Fornatoro 44:18

Brett Fornatoro, College of Liberal Arts, we have too many vacancies to be picky so I think we should vote for both of them.

S

Senator Mott 44:29

Brendan Mott, Pro Tempore, even outside of that I actually support both of these appointees anyway. Just because I haven't worked with Isabel that much but I think that this will give her a chance to learn and grow just like she was saying and I have worked with Bryce. I know that Bryce worked on a lot of stuff in the past with SGA. I'm quite aware of some of the stuff they used to do and I think he'd be very valuable to come back and rejoin us

S

Senator Smith 44:55

Da'Yanah Smith, College of IDS, even though we do have vacancies, I say we should be wise in who we choose to put in these seats. So that's all I have to say.

S

Senator LeBeau 45:09

I mean it is true... I'm agreeing with you.

S

Senator Smith 45:16

What we don't want to do is have people coming in here that don't know much about this. We need to keep it going with us first.

V

VPLA Goldstein 45:25

Oscar Martinez, Senator-at-Large, I mean the girl, she seems like she's got the spirit. She wants to get some experience. She has no experience but some people come with no experience so we got to give them a shot. As far as the guy, he's been here before, he knows what he wants to do. I think those are both valid reasons to join.

S

Senator Smith 45:50

Da'Yanah Smith, School of IDS, She does has spirit. SGA spirit? I don't know.

P

Pro Tempore Mott 46:10


Motion to vote, Brendan Mott, Pro Tempore.


V


VPLA Goldstein 46:13

Can I get a second?

 Senator LeBeau 46:14
Twanna LeBeau, College of Liberal Arts, I second that.


 VPLA Goldstein 46:18
We will now take a roll call vote for this slate of Senators or nominations for Senators. When I call your name, please vote yes, no, or if you just abstain abstain. So Dwayne Crenshaw.

 Senator Crenshaw 46:35
Yes.


 Senator Moss 46:36
Jordan Moss, Junior-at-Large, point of inquiry, are we voting for them together?





That's what a slate is.

 Senator Smith 46:45
Oh shoot.

 VPLA Goldstein 46:56
Okay, so Dwayne Crenshaw?

 Senator Crenshaw 47:00
Yes.

 VPLA Goldstein 47:02
Candace Dazet.

 Senator Dazet 47:05
Yes.

res.

-  VPLA Goldstein 47:06
Lukas Deffendall.
-  Senator Deffendall 47:08
Abstain.
-  VPLA Goldstein 47:11
Julia Duong.
-  Senator Duong 47:13
Yes.
-  VPLA Goldstein 47:15
Brett Fornatoro.
-  Senator Fornatoro 47:16
Yes.
-  VPLA Goldstein 47:18
Alicia Helbing.
-  Senator Helbing 47:20
Yes.
-  VPLA Goldstein 47:22
Azizah Hinnawi.
-  Parliamentarian Hinnawi 47:23

— Yes.

V VPLA Goldstein 47:26
Jenna Hymel... wait Daniel Hunsaker.

P Pro Tempore Mott 47:29
Yes by proxy.

V VPLA Goldstein 47:31
Jenna Hymel.

S Senator Hymel 47:34
Yes.

V VPLA Goldstein 47:37
Twanna LeBeau.

S Senator LeBeau 47:37
Yes.

V VPLA Goldstein 47:40
Cooper Lemons.


S Senator Lemons 47:41
Yes.


V VPLA Goldstein 47:44
Oscar Martinez.


S Senator Martinez 47:45

 Senator Martinez 47:45
Yes.


 VPLA Goldstein 47:47
Chloe Metzler.


 Senator Metzler 47:50
Yes.


 VPLA Goldstein 47:53
Jordan Moss.


 Senator Moss 47:54
Yes.

 VPLA Goldstein 47:55
Brendan Mott.

 Pro Tempore Mott 47:58
Yes but point of order to myself I meant to say abstain by proxy for Daniel I apologize.

 VPLA Goldstein 48:03
It's fine. Henry Nguyen.

 Senator Nguyen 48:07
Yes.

 VPLA Goldstein 48:10
Tara Rizzi.



S Senator Helbing 48:12
Abstain by proxy.

V VPLA Goldstein 48:15
Mohammed Mohiuddin Sakib.

S Senator Sakib 48:18
Yes.

V VPLA Goldstein 48:21
Naw Safrin Sattar.

S Senator Sattar 48:24
Yes.

V VPLA Goldstein 48:27
Da'Yanah Smith.

S Senator Smith 48:28
No.

V VPLA Goldstein 48:43
So with a vote of 16 yeses, 1 no, and 4 abstentions, they are both appointed Senators. We are now moving to Open Forum, where we discuss matters pertaining to the-

P Pro Tempore Mott 49:14
Sorry, I was ready to speak.

V VPLA Goldstein 49:18
to the betterment of SGA.

- G** Guest Felix 49:25
Hi, my name is Amaya Felix. Thank you all for having me today as a guest. I just wanted to say the Bursar and Financial Aid has not been responsive. So I decided to call the Department of Education today. My loans and stuff were disbursed. I don't know if that goes for anyone else but the bursar typically only has 14 days once it disburses to release it to us technically and they also say that in their emails.
- V** VPLA Goldstein 49:55
Wait so you got your money?
- G** Guest Felix 49:58
No.
- V** VPLA Goldstein 49:58
Okay. Okay. It's been disbursed to the university.
- G** Guest Felix 50:01
Yes.
- V** VPLA Goldstein 50:02
So they got the money? Ok.
- G** Guest Felix 50:05
Yeah, but they can't access it.
- V** VPLA Goldstein 50:08
That's ridiculous.
- S** Senator Moss 50:11
Jordan Moss, Junior-at-Large, so basically what has happened is like the school has the money, right? But they have 14 days to get us the money, but let's say it's in a little safe and they don't have the key to open it.

G Guest Felix 50:27
Yeah.

S Senator Moss 50:27
So they got it but they lost the keys okay.

V VPLA Goldstein 50:36
I don't know who was-

P Pro Tempore Mott 50:37
I'll go second. So Brendan Mott, Pro Tempore, I wanted to talk about the meeting with Amy King. So she does want to come speak at a Senate meeting. Do y'all have a good date or would you rather just be a meeting where we have like a very small agenda maybe. It may be top of her schedule, but I will let her know next meeting that you can come and I'll give her the dates and times. And there's also a few ways we can do it, we can either have us wait til open forum and that's when she speaks, or, alternatively, we can motion to suspend Robert's Rules- we can't do that?

A Advisor Courseault 51:14
I'm sorry ignore my gesture, go ahead. Sorry.

P Pro Tempore Mott 51:18
We can do that but that would be ultimately up to all of us to decide if we want to do it like that or if we want to do it the other way.

S Senator LeBeau 51:25
Can't we just give her three minutes of speak in open forum?

P Pro Tempore Mott 51:28
We get 12.



S

Senator LeBeau 51:29

And we give her three?

V

VPLA Goldstein 51:34

We can just tell her to come at six which is when open forum starts.

S

Senator LeBeau 51:40

She's rude.

P

Pro Tempore Mott 51:41

Point of order, just to let everyone know everything you say in senate meetings is recorded and made taken on notes. Because we are officially a governing body.

S

Senator Moss 52:00

Jordan Moss, Junior-at-Large, point of inquiry, I may be ahead of myself but you guys know how the basketball team basically the number one team in the conference right now and the championship is coming up in March. Is it possible to get- we did this in high school. I don't know. Just asking, is it possible for SGA to sponsor a bus or put together a bus so students can attend the game because the game is in Houston, which is a little far. But I'm just asking, is it a thing? No? Insurance?

S

Senator Fornatoro 52:38

That dang liability.

A

Advisor Courseault 52:43

Liability, the athletic department would have to put in a bill. We operate a lot differently than a lot of other schools. I mean, well let me know if the athletics department submits a request. There's a lot of moving parts that have to happen. But SGA itself, we don't have the ability to sponsor something that big.

S

Senator Moss 53:07

Right. Okay. So they just recently did it, granted McNeese is a lot closer, but he athletic department put together a bus for people to go to McNeese and they charged \$50. So it's more so like, the athletic department has to put it together and sponsor the thing for t and all that stuff.

A

Advisor Courseault 53:29

Let me do some research. And then I will get back to you and I can let the whole Senate know but but it's leaning closer towards-

S

Senator Moss 53:37

No, ok.

A

Advisor Courseault 53:38

But I will check.

S

Senator Martinez 53:44

So Oscar Martinez, Senator-at-Large, so I just had a question. So this is for everyone, as far as campus events, who actually reads the newsletter? Let's be real, right? Well, everyone in this room probably does, I'm talking- I know no one reads the campus newsletter, really no one. I know everyone here reads it. I read it. But I'm like, 'Oh, are you familiar with the games event that we just threw six months ago' and they're like, 'no, we throw game events, we have a gameroom?' So this is just an idea. So I know a lot of schools, they have right in the center of their library for schools that I've visited, right in the center of their library they have upcoming events, because that is literally the most trafficked area. So I know we have what 19 grand, and I know that these signs run about 10 grand. You have an electronic sign, right in the middle, listing all events changing frequently. I mean, it's better than nothing. I mean, we're talking about we want more involvement, but then we don't want to inform people so they can get involved.

V

VPLA Goldstein 54:58

A lot of people raised their hand. Azizah, you can go first.

P

Parliamentarian Hinnawi 55:03

Azizah Hinnaewi, Graduate-at-Large, point of information, the giant screen in the back of the library along with all the television screens along that back wall. Organizations go up over there, and they can get their flyer or their announcement of their event to be put on there and it just changes every so often. I know it still rolls through events, but now it kind of just does like Black Lives Matter, Where is your mask, and that kind of stuff, because we don't have that much going on. Also, we do have the podiums all around campus, which is a place for organizations to hang their signs. And there's one actually right outside of the library. So we do have a lot of places, clubs just aren't really utilizing them.

V

VPLA Goldstein 55:47

Maybe we need to reach out to the heads of the club or the executives.

S

Senator Moss 55:55

Jordan Moss, Junior-at-Large, point of information, I think that it just comes to a point where SGA needs to do a better job of communicating with the organizations, we do have a lot of things that they can access to get their events and things out but the communications between SGA and campus organizations, to me was not invested which was probably why there is a larger gap between student involvement, cause nobody knows about things until the last minute and then this doesn't empower students who work jobs and all that stuff so if you don't know til five o'clock you're not gonna go.

S

Senator LeBeau 56:38

Twanna Lebeau, Colleg of Liberal Arts, point of information also. So the big blue areas, you have to get permission to use those and a lot of student organization did not know that. Also, I feel like my freshman sophomore year the word got around faster when we had the UNO social app, but they cut that off.

A

Advisor Courseault 57:01

Point of information, so SGA sponsors- SGA pays for the UNO Social App, the UNO Social App is active. We're working on the channels to get that done. But what I was telling Brendon is that we need to do a mass drive getting people signed up. Like, UNO Social App is pointless if no one is on it.

S

Senator LeBeau 57:30

Advertise it at orientation, it's-

A

Advisor Courseault 57:32

They did, but we have a lot of students, sophomores and juniors, who didn't go to orientation. Like there's a lot of people that don't know about the game room. So we're gonna do a grand opening for that. So we need to table, you guys pay for so much stuff. But the social app is something that you pay for you're under contract, we need to table to get people live.

S

Senator Lemons 57:57

Cooper Lemons, College of Liberal Arts, I think a big issue is lacking on social media for things. Events get posted whenever they're happening, or right after they happen. But there's never anv heads up to anvone followina them. this is aoina to happen. And that's where a lot more

people look and watch the school's Instagram page, versus checking their school email, even though they should they check their Instagram a lot more often, they're going to see that a lot more often. And just, it doesn't help to have it in mind whenever you have it in mind afterwards. Because I know plenty of people who they see something being hosted and they're like 'Oh, I would have went to that. I just didn't know it was happening.'

S

Senator Mott 58:53

So I wanted to go back to- point of information, back to Twanna, Brendan Mott, Pro Tempore, I thought I would just mentioned that- so the thing with UNO Social is that all the people who work the game room, so Brett, Bryce, and I as well as Amber and Alastor, who are not part of SGA, we all technically are the also the people who monitor the app. The main issue is that just people aren't using it. And so we do have to try to get people to use it more. There are some channels that students can post on. It's just- maybe it's because something I've noticed is maybe what students can post is not clear maybe so students don't want to post at all because they are worried their posts are gonna get deleted or they're gonna get in trouble.

P

Parliamentarian Hinnawi 59:39

Azizah Hinnawi, Graduate-at-Large, point of information, when I was a Peer Mentor, what we used to do was kind of make it mandatory for all freshmen to have the UNO Social App because we had the Privateer Plunge events, so they would have to scan in on the Social App, which would then be sent into their professors and we would be able to give them their credit for the class. If they didn't have the social app, and they couldn't get that credit. And then that just allowed for a lot more students to be on the app before it did get shut down. But also, I don't think the whole advertising for events really relies on SGA and the app entirely because back before COVID when we wanted to get people to events, we would dorm storm, we would hand out flyers, we would be up in the library giving one to every single person. There are ways to get it out there. Organizations just kind of forgot that and just have been out of the swing of things so I don't think that entirely relies on the app and SGA. Well, he was after me.

S

Senator Deffendall 1:00:42

I was just gonna say that UNO Social App, even though like I'm a freshman and I knew about it. When I first went on to it like a lot of the buttons just don't even work. The UI is honestly crappy. And a lot of the events and clubs aren't updated, everything is behind. I know it's not the only solution but it would really help to basically redo it.

C

Clerk of Senate Corcoran 1:01:22

Point of order, can you say your name and college so I have it on record?

S

Senator Deffendall 1:01:25

Yes. So Lukas Deffendall, College of Liberal Arts.

C Clerk of Senate Corcoran 1:01:27
Thank you.

P Pro Tempore Mott 1:01:27
Now that is time so if anybody wants to extend you can.

S Senator Fornatoro 1:01:31
Brett Fornatoro, College of Liberal Arts, motion to adjourn.

V VPLA Goldstein 1:01:37
Yeah-

S Senator LeBeau 1:01:37
Twanna LeBeau, College of Liberal Arts, I second that.

V VPLA Goldstein 1:01:41
I adjourn this meeting at 6:02pm.