Minutes of the SGA Meeting on December 1st

5:34 pm Meeting called to order
  - Motion made by Rep. Yvonne Rodriguez
  - Seconded by Rep. Rachel Dang

5:35 pm Statement of Resignation of President Stefan Arias read by Jordan Kampschmidt
  - A copy of this letter is attached to the minutes

5:37 pm Adoption of the previous meeting’s minutes
  - Motion made by Rep. Daniel Chitty
  - Seconded by Rep. Cody Smith

5:38 pm Parking and Campus Security

Mark Jesse, Dir. Of Parking, & George Petit, Inspector UTHSCSA Police
  - Concerns expressed by Rep. Roma Kaul—Ever since the dental school moved, the zone 3 parking lot parking next to Greehey has been full starting at 6-7am
  - For people that actually work in that area (graduate students, graduate staff, etc.) it has been very hard to find parking
  - Graduate students and staff work very odd hours and having to park a great distance away from their workplace has become a safety hazard for them when they are returning to their parking spots at night and during the early morning hours
  - They are hoping for a solution so that the students at the new dental campus and the graduate students that work at the research campus can all have access to the best parking situation possible
  - Mr. Jesse—Admittedly, the parking situation on this side of campus has become a problem due to the new oral health building
  - There are also a lot of people from the MARC that may be parking there
  - Adding additional zone 3 parking spots isn’t an option right now
  - We probably do not have enough spaces to accommodate everybody who would like one right now
  - There are spaces available in the neighboring parking lot although we understand the dilemma of traveling there at night
  - Mr. Jesse—Have you tried the Safewalk program on campus?
  - Answer from Rep. Nourhan Abdelfattah: I have tried it previously but had a 30min to an hour wait time. I haven’t tried again in about a year.
  - Answer from Officer Petit: One year ago we were short-staffed and wait times were higher. Now that we have full staff any more than 10 minutes would be unacceptable, I accept our guards to respond immediately unless there is an emergency or something else going on that they have to attend to. If you do experience a wait time greater than 10 minutes please contact us
ASAP so that we can address this issue. Please try to utilize the Safewalk program.

- With respect to the possibility of a crosswalk for the new oral health building, that is in the works and it will be in the lot across from Lot 19.
- All of the money for the crosswalk has been brought together, all of the research has been accumulated, and the signs for the new crosswalk are/were supposed to arrive this month so moves are being made to implement this although the timeline is about 6 months behind schedule.
- They should be able to start construction on the crosswalk by May/June and it will be a similar system to the crosswalk over near the VA where you press a button and the lights turn to red and flashing indicating that cars should stop.
- Comment from Treasurer John Koprivsek—It seems like the crosswalk is being made to accommodate the people that park across the street, but it seems as though they built the oral health building without accommodating the people that will inhabit the oral health building with adequate parking. The issue is that this has forced them to park in the lot that is shared between CTRC and the MARC so it has pushed people out of the parking lot outside of CTRC that originally had no problem accessing spots.
- Mr. Jesse—The parking lot at Oral Health has 185 spaces and all of them are full as of now. We looked into adding Zone 3 parking spots into that parking garage but it wasn’t feasible at the time. Admittedly, there are not enough parking spaces for all of the people who need them and there is a high demand for reserved spaces on that campus.
- Rep. Elizabeth Hassan—Is there anything that you can do to accommodate the people that currently work at CTRC? It seems as though a lot of the effort has been put into accommodating the people across the street rather than the people that work at CTRC.
- Mr. Jesse—We are working on solutions for this. As of now, one solution is that students and volunteers with Zone 2 parking at CTRC are able to park on the roof of the parking garage as well, an area that was previously deemed Zone 1 only.
- Officer Petit—We recognize that the oral health building was built with too few available parking spots but this has a lot to do with the amount of funding allotted to this. This is a concern that unfortunately we do not have a lot of control over but we are voicing the discord and are fighting for more parking spots to be created.
- Question from Rep. Elizabeth Hassan—With the patient and visitor parking at the oral health building, are there really that many patients there at all times?
- Mr. Jesse—Yes, we are seeing now that at certain times of the day those parking lots are full. We are averaging over 500 visitors per day in that garage.
- Officer Petit—We definitely understand your frustration. There are not enough spaces to accommodate all of the parking needs at maximum capacity.
on this campus. Please try to make use of the shuttle when possible. Unfortunately there is not much that we can do to add parking. The student government association does have the ear of the president though and your voices carry a lot of power. Do what you can to make your voices known to the right people, and hopefully in the future more parking spots will be created. What suggestions might you have to solve this issue?

- Suggestion from Elizabeth Hassan—Is there anyway to allot some of the Zone 2 or 3 parking spaces to Greehey employees, etc. and designate them by assigning them a sticker or some other identifying form to their parking pass?
- Answer from Officer Petit—As of now I do not see this as a possibility, it would take a lot of staff to enforce this and would demand a certain amount of trust of your fellow students to ensure that they did not park in the reserved parking spots allotted to workers at Greehey. It does not currently seem like a possibility but we will look into it and flesh out all of the details.
- Concern from Rep. Nourhan Abdelfattah—A graduate student pointed out that the parking lines near Gold’s Gym have become faded, is there any way to address this?
- Mr. Jesse—Yes, addressing this problem is already a part of our fiscal plan for the year.
- Officer Petit—On the topic of safety concerns, we are not responsible for lighting but we have heard your concerns and the new director of facilities on campus is implementing a plan for improving lighting on campus and you should start seeing more and more improved lighting on campus. This was a due in a great part to SGA suggestion and insistence. The SGA voice is very important and is heard, so continue to make your concerns known to the right people and changes will be implemented.

**6:02 pm Community Outreach Project Presentation**

*MS2 Rep. Rachel Dang*

- Per the SGA constitution we are required to have a community outreach project every year
- I started working with Karen, the woman who previously presented to us her organization Grandparents raising grandchildren, about the possibility of running a program alongside her organization
- The goal of the program would be to dissect certain health topics with them, with representatives from all of our schools that can be available to describe their programs, what they do, their roll in health care, etc.
- We will meet them where they are and the goal is to run this program in late March or early April
- This program will be presented for approval for future meetings
- The goal is to create a program similar to our Boys and Girls Club project last year
- Question fro Rep. Cody Smith—One of the problems that occurred last year preventing people from volunteering was getting people cleared via
background checks to volunteer at Boys and Girls Club, will this be a problem again this year?

- Rachel Dang—As far as I know thus far, that was a problem unique to the Boys and Girls Club.
- Any further questions about this initiative can be directed to President Jordan Kampschmidt (Kampschmidt@livemail.uthscsa.edu) or Rachel Dang (DangR@livemail.uthscsa.edu)
- If you are interested or would like to get your school involved in that get in touch with the community outreach committee

6:13 pm Exec Updates and Discussion of the Next Meeting

- Sign up for retreat by tomorrow at noon
- We will be meeting at the Bombay Bicycle Club off of St. Mary’s and 281 at 5pm to have dinner then we will go over to the Zoo
- If you would like to bring a significant other they are welcome as long as you pay their way
- We have SGA awards night coming up
- SGA awards happens every year and we reach out to the student body to recognize outstanding students from each of the schools
- We have freed up some time in the program by removing some of the previously allotted awards and now have more room to add in new SGA awards if there are any suggestions
- The current awards that we hand out are SGA member of the year (non-exec), community service project of the year (given to any student at UTHSCSA that has been nominated) and SGA supporter/facilitator/advisor of the year (staff/faculty support that we’ve found to be exemplary from the SGA standpoint)
- We would like to know what kind of things that SGA would like to honor if there are suggestions for more awards
- The event is tentatively scheduled for April 27th
- It would be best for us to nominate those awards by February so please send us those suggestions ASAP
- KEEP PLUGGING APPROPRIATIONS!

6:20 pm State of affairs

- Cody Smith (MS2)—Technical difficulties with audiovisual recording and how the room is running at the ALT-C, right now when you stream recordings from the ALT-C the sound is not working correctly. It is hard to hear it and there is a strange humming sound in the background.
- Lauren Fumes (Nursing)—The audio from a Macbook that we played in the ALT-C also did not work today for our nursing school class. When we reported it we heard that this has been a consistent issue.
- Daniel Chitty (DS2)—We are told the same things when we complain about lecture recordings at the ALT-C.
• Alex Oderhowho (MS1)—The video recordings in the lecture halls are really poor and outdated, so as long as we are talking about lecture recording quality we should also talk about that. One of the reasons that I applied to be a representative is because of the audiovisual problems that we have been having in all of our lecture halls.

• Nourhan Abdelfattah (Grad School)—I have been working with the office of international students and last year we had a night with the Middle East program that experienced a lot of success. We had a lot of participation from the people that were specifically invited but we were not able to reach as far of a population as we would have liked to. We are looking for a more diverse body of volunteers and attendees so we are asking for SGA members to help advertise and possibly volunteer for this event. For more information please contact me (Abdelfattah@livemail.uthscsa.edu)

• Yvonne Rodriquez (Dental Hygiene)—We are having a hard time finding patients for the dental clinic so if you know anybody that hasn’t had a cleaning in 5 years or is interested in having a cleaning please send them our way. If you are interested or know somebody that may be please contact me (RodriguezY4@livemail.uthscsa.edu)

• Lauren Funes (Nursing)—I went and spoke recently with the office of scholarships and financial aid and I feel as though there is a miscommunication going on in the office with what is happening with the funds and the scholarships that are being allotted. I’m wondering if there is another point of contact other than the main scholarships and financial aid number like a specific financial aid advisor.

• Dana Brown (Nursing)—Adding to the concerns in the ALT-C, it needs more clocks and bigger trashcans. We are in the same room all day and the trashcans fill up.

6:37 pm Break into Committees

6:56 pm Meeting is Adjourned

• Motion made by Rep. Cristal Gutierrez
• Seconded by Rep. Roma Kaul
From Stefan Arias:

Student Government Association Representatives,

It is with great lament that I must inform you all of my decision to resign as SGA President. This decision had absolutely nothing to do with any decisions, happenings, or misunderstandings among myself, the executive committee, or OSL. I felt that, given the most recent events in my life, it was the best possible resolution for all parties involved to step away from Student Government.

I know that, through working with Jordan, Katy, and John, they are incredibly well prepared to handle the responsibilities of the SGA executives. I ask that you all trust their leadership, as you have continued to do, and be patient with them in this transition.

I want to thank EACH AND EVERY representative that I had the pleasure to serve with for their time and efforts. Working with you all was TRULY one of my greatest joys in being a student at this institution.

I would also like to thank each faculty member that assists and sees to the success of our organization, specifically Bridgedette. She is one of the most genuine and kind hearted individuals I have ever had the pleasure to work with.

Lastly, I would like to leave you with this quote. I am certain I have used it in a meeting before, but it is applicable and on my top 5 list of quotes:

“He is happy whom circumstances suit his temper; but he is more excellent who suits his temper to any circumstance.” – David Hume

With Respect,

Stefan Arias