Minutes to the SGA meeting – December 7

05:32 PM Meeting Called to Order
- Motion made by Rep. Mustafa Mithaiwala
- Seconded by Rep. Isaac Maldonado

05:33 PM Motion to Pass Last Meeting’s Minutes
- Motion made by Rep. Mitchell Katona
- Seconded by Samantha Yee
Motion passed unanimously.

05:34 PM Campus safety/ Parking

*Police chief Michael Parks*

- A rep reported feeling unsafe walking from zone 3 to Methodist – Many of the lights are being retrofitted. I was in contact with the facilities, and they are in process of changing the lights across parking lots, and they are doing this systematically. We asked them if they could create a pathway that could go from the remote lots leading to Methodist? And that is the plan. We are working towards that along with facilities to make a more illuminated pathway. I ask that if at any point you are feeling unsafe, we will give you a ride. Contact our department, and we try to get there in less than in ten mins.
- Questions about lighting in general: the SGA is brought in concerns about lighting a few years ago, and the university has aggressively worked on that.
- One student reported homeless people next to CVS: When I started here five years ago, we had a homeless people problem in the medical center area. We worked to re-locate them to services like Haven for hope. A lot of times homeless people tend to reside in the medical center is because they are closer to medical facilities. We have to continuously keep track of them and encourage them to move to services like haven for hope. But they are reluctant to go there because it’s a highly restricted facility. We are currently working to find other homeless camps, and encouraging them to relocate. We will continue to be out there, so if you have a problem please reach out to us because we monitor these areas in addition to our campus.
  - Mitchell Katona: what is the best way to contact you?
  - Chief Parks: 210-559-2072 (that is my personal cell phone number so don’t widely distribute it)
- Questions about parking permits: a relatively small proportion of the money is coming from students, can we do away with charging students all together? All of our funding comes from the fees that we charge. With the dollars we receive, we replace the buses, we have now replaced our entire fleet of buses. There is a couple of things we are doing with the money: we are coming up with a bus app to track all the buses, there will be wifi on the bus. These are necessary costs that we would like to charge since we are completely self-funded. With part of the fees we charge, we pay the debt we have to build all the parking garages (that
have costed up to millions to build). We can guarantee that we will not be increasing the fees anytime soon, but we will not be lowering it either.

- Questions about Greehey parking: It is challenging to parking on that campus. When we built the oral health building we lost 200 parking slots. The only solution is to build another parking garage or add a parking level. We are currently facing the challenges of moving the oral health building. You can use the metered parking on the Greehey campus, that is an expensive solution. We are trying to work with our leadership to figure out a solution to this problem.
  - Farhan Ahmad: This is not directly related, but I noticed that all the entrances to main campus are closed except the main one on the weekends. Why is that?
  - Chief Parks: it is because we are short on staff and we want to keep track of people coming in.
  - Farhan Ahmad: what about the entrance on golds gym
  - Chief Parks: we are in the process of adding a card reader at that entrance.
  - Roma Kaul: what happens when the Alzheimer’s institute goes up?
  - Chief Parks: there will be parking accommodating the people, but it will be at a slightly greater price. Probably zone 3 will be the cheapest it will go.

- Lost and Found: We have the bins that look like trash cans. Our business affairs office decided that we were taking in hundreds of items. We grew and grew to the point of where we couldn’t store items. So we decided to put up those bins. We do keep valuable items like walets, phones and purses. The question if we can put it behind the counter at the library? So we are working with the library to see if they would be interested in taking care of it.
  - Mitchell Katona: I personally lost an item that was over $200 worth and the library said they had it and it and I went back in 24hrs later and it wasn’t there. The problem is that the bin is open access to everyone.
  - Chief Parks: That is where the disconnect is. The item was checked in but keeping the item secure is the concern and we will be working to solve that.
  - Mitchell Katona: One plausible solution is to physically move the bin behind the library desk.

06:03 PM UT System Briefing

**Jodie Gray and Patrick Ryan, UT Student Advisory Council Members**

- Jodie Gray: We represent the UT health San Antonio student advisory council at the entire university level. The council works to overcome problems pertaining to students. This year we addressed issues as: Diversity inclusion, student success, campus life and the graduate education working group.

- Patrick Ryan: This year we addressed student success and the graduate education working group. To address the issue of graduate education working group, and we wanted to focus on the career advisory aspect across the UT system. We came up with a questionnaire that has 7 questions. We want to understand that whether the feedback instructors receive from students, if that is being implemented in a transparent manner. Do students feel like they can give honest feedback, if that feedback is valued and implemented and if the implemented
changes are communicated back to the students. That questionnaire should be coming in sometime in early January. The graduate group also released a brief statement on the proposed tax reform. A lot of the students that sit on the board, felt that it was imperative that our voices were heard about our concern so we wrote a positioned statement that is going to get released through the UT system lawyers.

- Diversity and inclusion: We are also encouraging the use of pronouns (more inclusive), instead of gendered terms.
- First generation students: Across the whole UT graduate system, we are addressing the first-generation students to help make sure they succeed by putting in place a mentorship program

- Jodie:
  - For the undergrads: One other concern is developing interactive degree plans that help with undergrads, reducing textbook costs, and providing open education resources.
  - Our staff is interested in disaster relief and response and preparedness. We are now focused on mental health after disasters such as hurricane Harvey.
  - We are hoping that this would make a model that other universities could follow.

06:10 PM South Texas AHEC

Andrea Moreno-Vasquez, AHEC scholar Council Members

Today I’m here to talk to you about AHEC (area health education centers) scholars program. AHEC is historically established to provide training and continuing education to health professionals and health institutions. South texas AHEC has been around since the early 90s. we have historically focused on having public health camps, continuing education programs for health practitioners and a variety of other community engagement program. In September, we got new funding and we are stating a new program. This scholarship is open to all health professional students, who are interested in supplementing their education with team based learning. It could help with networking, allowing you to learn more about other health professions or maybe you want to get more experience with underserved populations? We will be piloting this program in March. It is intended to be a 2 yr program. But for our pilot program, we are seeking 5 students to participating in a 10hr self-directed online program and a 10hr team based practical program. We will also give you a $1000 for participating.

Rep Isaac Maldonado: where is the ten hours practical program.

Andrea: It’ll be a clinic or a community based location. We are trying our best to make that happen on the weekends.

President Evan: is there a cap on the number of people who enter the program?

Andrea: the only eligibility requirement is that you are in good standing. But for the pilot program we are only trying to take in ten students but if that is not a good time for you, we will start the full program in the fall.

6:16 PM Exec Updates
Ms. Roma Kaul, Mr. Alexander Oderhowho, Mr. Daniel Chitty, Mr. Evan Lucas

- Secretary Roma Kaul: SGA has a social outreach day planned for Feb 17th. We’re going to building a house with habitat for humanity. Only 25 people are allowed, so I’ll be sending a signup sheet, please check your availability and sign up.
- Treasurer Alexander Oderhowho: for appropriations, we will be having a meeting later, so please stick around.
- Vice President Danial chitty: E&G is gone and Say it an’t Soy is here.
  - Alex: has anyone tried it?
  - Sam: I tried the teriyaki and my friend tried the pad thai. The food wasn’t that great, some of the food was undercooked.
  - Jiye: I got the pad thai, and It was pretty small portions
  - Alex: I think we can get some feedback to them so that we can help them make it better.
- President Evan Lucas: If you are on Facebook, you can access our google doc (the first pinned post) to get everyone’s e-mails if you want to send an e-mail to all of the SGA. I have also added contact information for staff, whom you can contact yourself if you want to address any issues, and don’t want to wait till the next SGA meeting to bring it up.
  - Last meeting, we had a few questions about appliances and microwaves in the ALTC. They have a project manager to take care of that. At some point, we may use SGA funds to get more microwaves in there.
  - As far as the intramural fields go, the season ended last week. I spoke to ben, and it’s been looking good, since they have been taking care of the fields a bit more. We are still waiting for a quote on the lights and the fences.
  - We are very appreciative of all your hard work through this whole semester! We as an exec team, have two meetings left, so If you are interested in running for any executive positions, feel free to come and ask us questions.
- Dr. Mok: I am hoping that you all would have received information about tuition and fee proposal for 2018-19 and going forward. In Feb., the UT regents, will be reviewing the proposals. I just want to make sure that you know that the communication has gone out about the increase in fee
- Dr. Kaulfus: we had a meeting last week about SSF, we will have another. The SSF will be accepting proposals next year.
  - Alex: when is funds for?
  - Kaulfus: It is starts on September 1st.

6:25 State of Affairs

- Rep Isaac Maldonado: We have got approval for the love run. It will be held on Feb 10th. Part of the proceeds will go towards our graduation
- Rep Mitchell Katona: Could someone ask that if the parking fees be paid through tuition and fees? The crossing area between our campus and louis Pasteur and Floyd curl dr. I know that is an issue with the city, can we get a crossing guard at that place at peak hours. Someone else brought up golds gym, if a piece of equipment is missing, can it be
replaced? Golds gym said that lost equipment is UTHSCSA responsibility but I know it’s not. Can we talk to someone at golds?
  - President Evan: the manager of golds will coming to our January meeting. He will do what he can to replace equipment. He appreciates student feedback because it makes it easier to go to corporate golds gym to get equipment.
  - Rep Mustafa Mithaiwala: This is more of a suggestion, what if we can have within campus some biking spots?
    - Rep Lauren Parten: A&M has that system, where they have maroon bikes. And it works.
  - Rep Nema Bassiri: Is it feasible to have one of those systems where you have emergency boxes around campus? It looks like a phone booth. When someone feels threatened, you can push a button and it makes a sound and it flashes. I am wondering if that is feasible. But ins some of the lots that are more secluded, you can place them strategically.
  - Rep Jiye Moon: we had a fundraiser at chipotle, thank you all for coming!
  - Rep Sandy Montelongo: another suggestion, at UT Austin they have a buddy system, you could call one number and someone would walk you.
    - Roma: safe walk program. I’ll send you the number with the minutes.
    - Safe Walk- Call the UT Police Department at 210-567-2800 option 3, to request this service.
    - Sandy: Can you park anywhere after 5?
    - Roma: Yes.

6:42 Break into committees

6:56 PM Meeting Closed – Executive Order