Minutes to the SGA meeting on March 2nd

05:34 PM Meeting Called to Order

05:35 PM Motion to Pass Last Meeting’s Minutes

- Motion made by Rep. Cristal Gutierrez
- Seconded by Rep. Cody Smith

05:36 PM Community Library Use

Mr. Owen Ellard, Director of the Library

- A follow up on the issue of community access to the library, specifically the idea of having less available hours for community access and having some degree of identification that we can provide to visitors.
- Comment from rep. Rachel Dang: I have had a lot of people tell me that they have never felt unsafe in the library. When I asked about this specific issue they weren’t worried.
- Response from Mr. Ellard: Did they have any reaction to the idea of curtailing the time or identification?
- Comment from rep. Rachel Dang: They thought requiring an ID might feel like we are targeting certain types of people, so they didn’t think it was necessary.
- Comment from rep. Cody Smith: More or less similar, sometimes requiring an ID might pose a hurdle to people … Support for restricting hours and identification documents or at last sign in sheets
- Response from Mr. Ellard: The proposal was not that somebody will have to have an ID, but that we will provide them with a simple badge that says “Visitor”
- Comment from rep. Cody Smith: But then signing in require that they had some sort of original ID? That was the original concern. But also people showed more support for restricting the hours for the public.
- Suggestion from rep. Penny Wong: how about having people apply for extra hours if they need to do research?
- Response from Mr. Ellard: That was the concept visitor researchers might be able to apply for an ID that says “visitor researcher” that will allow them to use the library for extended hours.
- Campus police is open to increasing the number of hours they are available at the library. They also did not have any objection to curtailing the hours of public access.
- It is important to achieve a sense of balance that we are still open and available, but not the entire day where students start feeling unsafe.
- Question from rep. Maria Slater: if you cut down the hours, how will you be able to control the people already inside. How will people know they are not supposed to be there.
- Response from Mr. Ellard: They can find the information on the website on the hours we are open to the public and then after community hours we will have badge admission only
- Let me also say that we have gotten our student satisfaction survey back about two or three weeks ago and the numbers were great. One of the requests we repeatedly had was that the library should be open more hours for the students. After talking to staff and university police about this, it looks like it is quite possible to move into 24/7 library access to students and faculty
- May I just finish be asking for reactions to that?
- Comment from rep. Nathan Philips: students will be excited about this!
• Question from rep. Destiny Chavez-Levey: If we do do that, will there options to increase the dining options as well? Like having extended hours for Starbucks
• Comment from Interim President Jordan Kampschmidt: we will need to talk to lancer about this
• Comment from rep. Cody smith: I remember when we talked to lancer a few weeks ago there were talks about kiosks or vending stands after hours
• Comment from rep. Penny Wong: I don’t know if this is an option but, maybe having fancy vending machines dispensing hot beverages and sandwiches or ramen
• Response from Mr. Ellard: I love the idea of vending machines.

05:46 PM Graduate Students Association (GSA) Science Fiesta

*Mika Sifuentes, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences*

• This is our second year organizing science fiesta and I wanted to talk to you about it because we need more participation outside the graduate school
• Our mission is to promote that science communication is important for any career pathway, to engage with public audiences and increase science appreciation, awareness and trust.
• Science Communication and Outreach symposium in 2015 paved the way to Science Fiesta
• Fiesta theme aimed at imbedding into the san antonio culture, to reach the younger audience and entire families
• 2016 San Antonio celebrated 124 years of fiesta and we want science to be part of it
• Science mill and museums had interactive booths last year, there were presentations, posters and the largest periodic table in the world.
• The Graduate students created the San Antonio science non-profit organization which will organize this year’s science fiesta along with many more science events.
• Our organization also published a paper on the outcome and feedback of Science Fiesta 2016.
• Science Fiesta 2017 will revolve around science and health.
• Logo competition with participation from san antonio public schools
• This year’s science fiesta will be held at the Mays family center, Witte museum which will be reopening tomorrow
• If you want to be part of this contact me or Travis Block an alumni, adjunct faculty and director of San Antonio Science.
• Comment from rep. Jiye Moon: do you have a scholarship program for high schooler for example?
• Response from Mika: no, but we do have poster competitions and other prizes that we give out.
• Comment from Interim President Jordan Kampschmidt: Guys, that’s the day after our volunteer effort so just make a weekend of it. If you are not going to volunteer or set up a booth, make sure that you go and support the event. Last year’s event was amazing.

05:58 PM Medical Services Fee Referendum

*Sara Noble, MS4 and Mike Nash, School of Health, Corena Shaffer, Graduate School*

• Student Counseling Center (SCC), first floor of medical school, open from 8:00 to 5:00 and there are 24/7 answering services all free of charge with 100% confidentiality to students.
• There are many advantages of going to the SCC compared to other private practices, including that they are here on campus, they are free and have better waiting times than most San Antonio private practices.
The main issues that we are encountering are primarily because most of the staff are part time.

Institutional funding covers staffing and overhead costs and the rest comes from the student health fees.

Last academic year, the majority of the appointments are personal case managements but other services are also utilized. The students come from all UTHSCSA schools.

Student testimonials for why the services are important for our students (included in the attached presentation).

School-wide and internal Surveys show need for increasing the number of staff and number of services and awareness of such services. The students also did not like the outdated, unwelcoming basement location.

Current funding options include institutional funding which will support the move to the old dental school. However, the increase in services and staff will be paid for by the proposed referendum.

The increase will happen incrementally until it reaches the same fees paid by students attending other UT schools.

The average increase will be $16.36. This small increase will have a rather large impact on the student health services budget in 5 years from now.

There are other precedents for student fee referendum like the referendum for Golds Gym in 2008.

As a result of the budget increase the SCC will have hire 3 additional full-time staff (2 new psychologists and a social worker) this will translate into additional clinic appointments and expand outreach efforts.

There will also be new diagnostic testing instruments for ADA requirements, board requirements, depression, anxiety and personality.

The move to the old dental school will allow for additional rooms like group/workshop and relaxation rooms. It will also allow for more privacy and less stigma to students seeking help.

They’re asking SGA members to
  o become aware of the changes so they can make an informed vote on April 11th and 13th
  o Help / volunteer at voting locations
  o A Small budget at election day to offer candy and other attention grabbing items
  o Endorse the referendum

Comment from rep. Jeremy Stull: There are students who are not on campus. They feel that it’s unfair because they will never get to use these services but still have to pay for it, same as Gold’s Gym.

Response from Mr. Kaulfus: We have heard that before. It is very had to separate the students who are not on campus, but for example if you are a member of Gold’s gym, you have access to any other gym in the country especially that we are black level. Being a part of an institution, you pay the library fee and many other fees. It’s part of the experience.

Response from Dr. Mok: for students who are at the valley there are health services offered on location.

Comment from Dr. Veve: The crisis hotlines can also be used off campus.

Questions from Interim President Jordan Kampschmidt: It came to my knowledge that faculty at the graduate school are paying for tuition on behalf of PhD students, will they be part of the referendum.

Response from Dr. Mok: NO, this is a student referendum.

Mr. Kaulfus: An email will go out to all students with the presentation and a link to the website. For more information email me or Linda Howard.
• Voting will happen through emails; the booths are for awareness and to inform the students that the vote is happening.
• Comment from Interim President Jordan Kampschmidt: As for the request for budget, an appropriations request needs to be filed for funding to be approved.
• Follow up from Sara Noble: if you are interested please volunteer at the booths and encourage your classmates to volunteer as well.

06:45 PM SGA Resolution on Medical Services Fee Referendum

*Nathaniel Phillips, MS4*

• Motion made by rep. Nathaniel Phillips
• Seconded by rep. Cody Smith

SGA Proposed Resolution is attached.

• Cody Smith: we should remove “despite the hiring of new director” as it might convey a negative meaning.

Motion to amend the working on section 3 striking out “despite the hiring of a new director”

• Motion made by rep. Cody Smith
• Seconded by rep. Penny Wong

Motion passed

• Question by GSA secretary Katy Kazen: is UTHSA the proper name now?
• Response from Mr. Kaulfus: the official name is still UTHSCSA. But, my understanding the office of marketing does not want us to use any acronym fro the new name.

Motion to amend the UTHSA to UT health san antonio

• Motion made by rep. Nathaniel Phillips
• Seconded by rep. Cody Smith

Motion passed

As amended – motion to close discussion

• Motion made by rep. Nathaniel Phillips
• Seconded by rep. Rachel Dang

Motion to vote on the referendum 2016/8 as amended

• Motion made by rep. Nathaniel Phillips
• Seconded by Penny Wong

Motion passed

**Exec Updates**

• We need SGA members to man the grill during Burger Burn and become certified to work the beer line
• Spread the word on Burger Burn and tell your classmates to come and have a great time.
- We will not have a photo booth this year since the one we had fell through
- SIGN UP for burger burn and get TABC certified
- SGA awards night, we need to nominate two awards and vote on them
  - SGA member of the year
  - SGA student advocate of the year
- Nominations for SGA member of the year
  - Rachel Dang
  - Stephanie Molidor
- Nominations for SGA student advocate of the year
  - Bridgedette Ynman
  - Lekisha Johnson
  - Mr. Black
- Google poll will be sent for further nominations will be sent out tonight.
- SGA president 17-18 Evan Lucas: We wanted to invite a representative from lancer to talk about the food options during our April meeting. Talk to your classmates and think about what kind of questions that you need to ask them.

State of Affairs

- One of our reps from MS1 mentioned that the thermostat settings are off and some of the female students feel unsafe walking on campus especially from zone 3 parking to and from the library due to lighting.
- Comment from rep. Cody Smith: People need to be more aware of the “Safe Walk” program
- Comment from treasurer 17-18 Alexander Oderhow: we still need to address the concerns about the lightening in the parking lots
- Comment from rep. Penny Wong: Safe walk is a great program but I have heard students say that officers are being rude and making people feel uncomfortable.
- Response from Interim president Jordan Kampschmidt: if anyone ever feels like that they need to immediately email chief parks. He is incredibly responsive.
- Comment from rep. Chandler Kuhlman: just going off of that from personal experience, I had knee surgery and needed a vehicle to transport me from ALTC to where I parked while using crutches. I would call them saying that I am on crutches and just need help getting to my car. In a couple of instances, they were rude and sometimes the safe walk people would walk to me
- Response from Interim president Jordan Kampschmidt: if you can write more about that and send it to me, I will make sure that chief parks hears about it.
- Comment from rep. Destiny Chavez-Levey: Outreach to bring supplied to SAPH the psychiatric hospital of san Antonio
- Comment from rep. Rachel: MS2 will appreciate longer library hours
- Comment from rep. Chandler Kuhlman: My class will appreciate more safety on campus. There is also curiously when it comes to ALTC room reservation. My class studies there all the time and we end up being taken out of the rooms.
- Response from Interim president Jordan Kampschmidt: the reservation system is very rigid. It was designed to reserve the technology for faculty to be able to use it during class. The School is working on streamlining the reservation structure to be similar to library rooms.
- Comment from rep. Brenda Guzman: It would be great if we added another microwave to the basement of library. Also hand sanitizers are empty in the second floor of the med school
Break into committees

Motion To Close Meeting

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