



The University of Texas at Tyler

Student Government Association

General Assembly Meeting

Thursday, October 13th, 2022

- I. Call to Order 5:30pm
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of the Minutes

Name	Absent
President Smith	
Vice President Bennett	
Secretary Dix	A (approved)
Treasurer Luna	
Chief of Staff Peters	
Adan Govea	
Amelia McCain	
Ashlyn Mattern	
Bee Black	
Ben Buchanan	
Brandon Scott	
Brennan McGinnis	
Bryce McQueary	
Christine Barrett	
Emily Helms	
JJ Rojas	
Jorian Khan	
Justin Vargas	
Kaylin Sheppard	
Kyna Holman	
Lisa Tran	
Macie Kirkby	
Maggie Manning	
McKenna Waller	
Tanner King	
Valerie McNamara	
Aisha Price	A
Asia Adams	
Anayeli Campo	
JaMaya Gossett	
Perpetual Kyei	



Emma Owulebaja	
Angelina Lezma	
Ronald Carnes III	
Erica Santee	
Macy Reed	
MD Milon Uldin	
Alexis Minick	A
Peace Okeke	
Chief Justice: Chloe Burleson	

IV. **Open Forum**

a. NONE

V. **Speaker's Podium**

a. **Dr. Katie Stone**

Dr. Katie Stone: I might grab your attention. Oh, thank you. Yes, with a little swag, because who doesn't love a little swag. So, Robert, would you do the honors of passing this out for me? Um, just in case you forget of what I've talked about today, you can remember and share this with the rest of campus. But um thank you to Landry; Landry serves on our QEP steering committee, and so does anyone know what QEP stands for. Yes, Quality, Enhancement Plan, and this is part of our accreditation process. Right? We just went through our tenth year review, and as part of that review, we had to put forth a proposal from our entire University about what we were doing to enhance the education and the student success here at UT Tyler, right? And so what we decided as a campus from like two thousand and sixteen, is that we would focus on developing students real world problem solving skills, right? So that's our QEP: in a nutshell developing students real world problem solving skills. And we're doing this in kind of numerous ways. The biggest way we're doing it is through um curriculum. So we've identified ten courses across ten different disciplines where we are having students engage in a real world problem solving assignment right, and then we are going to expand over the course of our five years of the strategic plan we're also looking at co-curriculars. So, for students who are maybe not enrolled in that class, they'll have the opportunity to also participate. Um, and we've identified the annual. We should showcase which happens in April and is sponsored by the honors program, as that opportunity, and we're looking to expand over the years as well. And so just kind of wanted you, as student government leaders, to know about what the University has deemed a priority for you all, and to know about what's actually happening in the curriculum, and that faculty, um and staff are being very intentional about the curriculum and the experience you have at you to Tyler, so that when you leave UT, Tyler, you'll have the skill sets that'll work out for them going into the real world. So as Landry's announcement, it feels weird. But uh, I just accepted a role at the School of Medicine doing Director of Student Wellness there. Um! Which is really really exciting, and they're going to hire a new QEP person. So when the um he would be happens, it may not be my face, which is maybe good. It'll be other people's faces as well. But any questions about the QEP, either in person or on zoom?



Senator Govea: Is there anything we can actively be doing to help you and the University help achieve this plan. Besides, you know, going to class and doing a homework. What is what is something that we can do, I guess more proactive in doing.

Dr. Katie Stone: Yeah. Great question. Um, We do have a student advisory committee that was formed from Sga members last year. And so if SGA Members are interested in being part of that advisory committee Um, maybe Landry, or you can those, and then send them my way, and then you can join the committee. Um, And that's a way to kind of add your voice, and how we can better implement this. I hope you see this as a very exciting thing, Right? This is. This is a really neat initiative that Ut Tyler is spending. Um putting a lot of time and effort into to really help um you all uh be better. And for those of you who are on Zoom, if you want a mug as well. You can just come to my office in Stewart Hall.

President Smith: Yeah. This also this whole conversation with the quality enhancement plan and our theme of it the real world problem, solving aspect of it, which is all of it really ties into to what ut system is starting to move towards, to, especially since. So we're trying to move towards more of a, I guess certificate based. And then also just um credential based curriculum that helps students have like improve their marketability. Wants to get out of college, so is very important. So if you're looking to do input, contact me, I'm happy to put you in the right place where you can vocalize that. All right. Next up we have **Chief of police members and Assistant Chief of Police Bradley Standerfer.**

Chief Medders: I appreciate the invitation uh to speak to the group tonight. really, I didn't have anything to present to you all. So we're here really to answer any questions So far, this semester, we feel good about the safety of the campus. We haven't had anything significant happen. We hope you feel the same way. At least we haven't had the reports of anything significant happening uh matter of fact, we've taken. Probably I think we've just taken one student to jail the semester. So that's a good thing. Uh what? So the students have been acting right. So that's that's that's how we like it uh It's always our goal to take zero students to jail. So we're We're almost meeting our goal right now. we would. We would like to just open it up to you questions, I know. Generally you'll have questions about parking. Uh, we understand. That's a that's a big hot topic on campus. Uh, but overall, I think even that's been going well, this semester, but we'll just open it up for anything you have.

Treasurer Luna: Hello! So I was wondering if you guys had anything to do with the um Gates at victory and everything, and if you knew anything about when those would be implemented for us using?

Assistant Chief Standerfer: So that would actually be a question for housing. They handle all the it's a maintenance out there. I know they've been working on it. Lead to try and get them installed uh recently you would have over at specially building, for I believe they they've kind of put in the new concrete. They've run some wire and some conduit, so



everything's in play with those set up. It's just a matter of time, probably materials would be a question made mainly for housing.

Senator Mattern: Um. I just want to say thank you first, because I work at the HPC. So we constantly see you guys up there, and I know you guys got a quite a few more PSO's, actually. But um! There was a lot of talk about the blue lights on campus. Are we going to keep those? Are we going to take them down?

Chief Medders: Uh, there's no intention of taking them down. As a matter of fact, we're adding uh blue lots all the time pretty frequently. Um! It's not something that gets used a whole lot, but I think it does provide a measure of security, the feeling of security around campus, and I think it's a deterrent to people who come on to campus. They see that, you know we take security seriously on campus. Uh, and again, you know, if you were out there and you didn't have your cell phone or your battery was dead, or something. That's a good way, you know, for you to contact us.

Assistant Chief Standerfer: We've actually invested significantly recently and upgraded them from three G to four G. So that they're going to be actually up to date and on the new systems and things like that. We're also in installing for, uh, along the new walking. So, as far as I know, they're gonna stay here long time.

Senator Waller: Uh, Is there any resources that you guys offer that you wish? Students utilized more?

Assistant Chief Standerfer: So we offer a lot of different programs, you know. We we obviously will come out and do speaking groups. One that we really push is run, hide, fight, trying to train people to understand what to do in an active shooter, active assailant uh type of situation. Uh, we get a lot of requests from the staff here. The faculty here, but we rarely get in front of student groups to do that. Uh, we are willing to host those anytime uh rad courses. Those can be requested we usually do one around fall. But if you all have a big enough group that you want to put it on for which is basically a rape aggression, self-defense class. Uh, we'd be more than happy to put that on uh we rarely get calls for safe walk. So that's kind of one thing that we are more than willing to do here late at night, if you're walking from the library to your vehicle, or you live at a Liberty Landing at the back of the complex, and you're walking from the UC. Over there will be more than happy to give you all a ride over to your building. Uh, that's something that's heavily underutilized here on this campus uh anything else you can think of. Oh, the app! If you want to talk about the app rave guardian app.

Chief Medders: The Rave Guardian App is really under utilized, and it it has that feature on it as well. If you don't want to call somebody to walk with you. You can set a safety timer, or if you're walking across campus, you know it's gonna take you ten minutes to get to your location, and if you, haven't deactivated that once you arrived at your location we would get an alert and dispatch. As long as your location services are on on your phone, we'd be able to see where you are. We'd be able to send someone out, you know. It could be a medical emergency, or it could be some type of criminal action or a criminal incident that we'd be able to get to you quickly, so you can see how that app could save



lives. So It's the rave guardian app in your app store. It's completely free. No reason for you not to have it. from that app. You can dial nine hundred and eleven. You can call us directly, and there's several other features on it like you can talk to, or you can text our dispatchers. If for some reason you weren't able to talk someone else elsewhere present. You didn't feel comfortable talking. You could text the tip to us. So there's a whole lot of features on that app that are beneficial. So we we consider it probably under utilized and, like Brad, said the safe walk program, we we really never get a call for that. It's very rare. But we really really don't mind coming out and and helping with that, and and probably the only other thing I would say is, and I think students, staff, and faculty have really gotten better about reporting suspicious activity to us. But we always want to emphasize that with our students. If you see something, say something, go ahead and call us right then sometime we'll get these reports that are a day or two old, and we would have loved to know when it was happening as opposed to. Well, I got to thinking about it, and maybe ought to say something. But Well, by then the person's already gone, or the suspicious circumstance has already gone, so we would like to know about it when it's happening. Right then.

Senator Govea: I have a question pertaining to parking um. So at minimum to live on campus during the fall or spring semester. You have to pay two thousand four hundred and eighty dollars to stay on campus. That's just living here at the University. I was wondering if there any plans to help in or to help over the cost for residents who park on campus as well, by somehow implementing parking permits into that costs uh, because they already pay that amount at minimum to stay here the University, and then another ninety dollars on top of that to park at the University in their own parking lot. Kind of thing is there plans to help uh to try to work with housing, to help lower that cost or not combine them into one seamless call. So residents don't have to worry about being ticketed at the start of the semester because they didn't know that they needed a parking pass, or any thoughts on that.

Assistant Chief Standerfer: So actually, that's a good question. I'm a big proponent of streamlining things, and I've pushed for to try and look into combining that fee into your housing fear into just student fees. In general, however, there's State law that prohibits that so we're not allowed to combine parking into a fee-based system for students. In a sense that you're You're voluntarily have to be willing to pay for the parking permit to park here. It's required to park here, but you can choose not to drive a vehicle on this campus. If you live on campus, you know you can't really not choose to have a parking lot, but you can choose not to have a vehicle, right? So it's hard to charge somebody for something that they may not have. So that's why we don't automatically charge students for a parking permit. I would wish we could. It would make life easier for you all, and easy for us. Um, we do give uh grace period at the beginning of each semester, where we advertise heavily that we're not issuing citations during the first two weeks Uh, we make sure that we don't, because obviously it takes time for students to get a justice to their classes to get adjusted to living here, and maybe their first time on their own. Uh. So there's lots of ways to uh give you some time to to get those done another way. We've made it. A lot easier is instead of making you all have to come stand in line to purchase a permit. It's now completely one hundred percent online uh we're trying to push, to have a goal to make it to where there's not even a permit system anymore. So it'll all be license plate base uh that's maybe in the next year or two. But currently we're starting to transition to that in the police department,



whereas if if you didn't have a parking permit right now, and you purchased it tonight at ten o'clock, you would show in our system to have a permit. We you wouldn't receive any more citations at that point, whether or not you have the permit. So we've actually eliminated the fine for failing to display permit this year. So, even if you lose your permit if it gets stolen. Um. If you're in a uh different vehicle you can call us when we put that plate in. If you forgot your permit. You're not going to get tickets for those types of things. So we're trying to improve in that nature. I know parking is kind of always the the crux in the room. Uh, you know, I will say that from a standpoint of funding and things of that nature, ninety dollars is very low in comparison to many other universities, and we need to remember that. Yes, we don't want to pay a lot for parking, but at the same time, if we want to be able to put new parking in and to increase the the parking and make sure we're maintaining those lots. We're going to have to fund that somehow, Okay, and that has to come from funds designated for parking, and the only way to increase those funds is to charge for it. So we want to make sure that we're charging a marketable weight or a marketable amount. We don't want a penny pinch, the students, obviously, but we do want to make sure that we're able to provide the resources you'll need, uh, you know, just in general, for a parking space to be built and on a flat lot You're looking at. About seven thousand a spot right now, to build a parking garage. You're looking at about thirty thousand dollars a spot right now, so it. It's very expensive to build these things, and you know, right now we're we're working to try and keep it as as minimal cost as possible. Uh, and just working with you all to create better solutions uh the license plate system being one of those to make it easier on y'all

Senator Govea: Are there plans to increase the parking permit fee?

Chief Medders: Nothing I know of. I'm not aware of any anything right now. That's been proposed. I'm not sure if you're aware not, but staff and faculty actually pay a hundred and twenty a year. Um! And just so, you know, every police department employee has a parking permit. So we're not exempt from it, either. Um and you know that was actually a recommendation made by the Police Department to the Administration a few years ago, because we felt like there's a lot of faculty and staff spaces out here that you can't park in um, so as students will. I don't feel like you should be paying as much as staff and faculty, because there's actually more parking available for staff and faculty. So I think the University is giving you a break on, you know, a little bit of a break, anyway, there, and, like Brad said, if you compare it to other universities, we're. We're probably cheaper than most on on parking, and there's just gotta be There's got to be a certain bucket of money there again, I think, when they just resurfaced the lots recently. Three hundred thousand dollars recently. So uh you can. You can see how that adds up quickly. But I do not know of any plans right now. There's been nothing suggested to me to raise the parking fee at this time. Now we are talking about raising the cost of fines for parking violations uh particularly for no permit. Uh, because right now I think it's thirty-five dollars a permit cost you ninety, so you could almost three tickets before you know you'd have to. So so you might see that go up the fines.

Assistant Chief Standerfer: The on twelve o'clock on a Tuesday or Thursday. It's very dangerous uh it's hard for us to pull out of our parking lot, which means It's hard for you all to try to get out of there, so we're going to be limiting, parking in the next couple of months, maybe six months or so to just the and quote me if i'm wrong in my directionals here. The south side of the Uh varsity drive closest to the University actual campus. So that's being done for safety concerns. We've had a few incidents of uh people almost getting hit walking across the street uh things of that nature that we're concerned for safety at this point, and we feel that it needs to be



limited down just to that one side. So there are going to be complaints coming from that I'm sure.

Senator Mattern: I don't know if you can answer this, but with parking. So you know what I see is in the business building. Is there any way we can put a road right there, so you don't have to go all the way back out and turn and go all the way back around to get to the business building?

Assistant Chief Standerfer: That's something that I'd recommend. If you all think that's something that would be of use, you know, putting a proposal together for it and submitting it to uh, probably parking to go to facilities for consideration up the chain of of command for us. Uh, you know, a lot of campuses are trying to get away from roads in our campus one because the safety of people drive through there. You know there's been a lot of issues of event traffic things like that where you have cars trying to drive into crowds, and adding that pathway only increases the the risk of that from a safety point. Right now. Lot fifteen, I'm sure a lot of you are where we have flock cameras on campus uh which is license plate readers. Lot Fifteen is kind of an isolated location right now. If we're looking for a vehicle on campus that's been involved in something. We can put our patrol resources to a specific area because we know it Hasn't touched Lot fifteen. We know it has an entered housing facility, so we know it's somewhere on the main campus. there is a problem of getting over there to to business building.

Chief Medders: And it's been talked about in the past so that's not something I'm going to rule out going forward.

Senator: Maybe you could answer this question: Do the different housing facilities have cameras? Because I've had a few students expressed concerns about whether or not maybe they might have someone walk into their dorms whenever they have the doors unlock. Or if maybe, if something gets stolen.

Assistant Chief Standerfer: So most housing buildings, I think all now do, especially Victory Village. I know we did a lot of work this summer, increasing uh cameras throughout housing. So, i'm gonna say this technology is what it is, and Internet interruptions and things like that. We do lose cameras from time to time, but we're constantly making sure that those cameras are up in housing. I know a Victory village has many, many cameras. O-Hall has cameras scattered throughout the buildings in the hallways. Um Patriot village does have cameras in and around the uh uh clubhouse area. There's not as I would actually built the hallways of the the dormitories themselves uh Liberty Landing. I know we've done a lot of work on the cameras over there. But in I think that central more towards the outer uh outside of uh, the apartment complexes. So you know, There, there's part of The problem is, we need to train people to continually to keep their doors locked. If you go out, keep your door secured. Uh, you know don't be letting strangers tailgate through the the parking lot to get in to the different housing units. Um and the other part of that is, is we any of these apartment complexes. We're we're capturing that license plate information. So if a burglary does occur and we're watching the cameras at the entrance, and we see a vehicle in or at midnight. Okay? And then we see a vehicle leave at two o'clock in the morning. That same vehicle we're able to kind of limit down. Who has been committing these crimes. I'm not sure if you'll remember the good old Cadillac converter theft that occurred here on campus at the beginning of the semester we were able to use flock to figure out who those people were. Okay. And then we were able to work with other agencies, and that guy actually



end up getting arrested for warrants out of some other state. I can't remember the exact state, but he was placed into custody based on the flock that we got. So there's always a need for increasing cameras, I think we're going to try to push for more cameras eventually. It's just trying to come up with the money to to fund those.

Chief Medders: Yeah. We currently have about six hundred cameras throughout campus. Uh, that includes the residential facilities. uh the K through twelve School, Palestine, and Long view, and of course, the main campus here, but about six hundred right now, like I say, we're always adding, we'd really like to hear about any safety concerns if you have any, Has anybody overheard anybody talking about not feeling safe on campus or poor lighting in any areas or anything you can think of that we could improve?

VP Bennett: I know for a little bit over there by the pharmacy building. Um where you're going by the trees, and then you cut right to pharmacy about three or four of those lights were out, as far, I believe, just a couple of weeks ago, so I don't know if they've been fixed recently, but it'll probably be something that you also look into.

Senator Helms: Um! So those lights that he was actually just talking about I um put in a request with facilities, or like I put in a notice that those that are out. Um! I never heard anything back. I'm not sure if I should expect to, or um. I did put in a maintenance request for that. Um! I did have a question about um security, I guess. Patrolling. I've only heard of one time around midnight where a police officer or a security, someone came into the Art complex that's on campus and like, walked around and like checked, and I've been there for a few years, and I That's the only time I've ever seen anyone patrol in inside the actual complex. I didn't know if there was like a schedule for that, or like, maybe I was never there at the right time to see someone. Um, I don't know if you could speak more to that like what those rounds look like in there.

Assistant Chief Standerfer: So there's not a specific schedule that officers follow. Obviously, you know, different, nice. There's different police officers working, and they all kind of have their own way about going around campus and making rounds through buildings. Uh, we did do a big push uh this semester to make sure that we had a much heavier, visible presence in and around campus and in the apartment complexes which has been a direct impact on a reduced level of crime that's been occurring for small, you know theft and and burglars and vehicles things of that nature. Um! We will check in on the uh parking walks for the or complex building, and we will make sure we send out an email to increase parking walks in that area, moving forward just to make sure that they they remember to go out and get it get involved in that part of campus.

Senator Govea: This might be more facilities related, but the crosswalk at night it is completely pitch black, unless those lights are on and flashing. Yes, and students will just send across it whenever they see that there's nobody there, and they don't have to push life and wait the whole second a couple of seconds to across the street. Your said I don't know if you have you, or has ever talked about.

Chief Medders: I think that's a great idea uh matter of fact. We'll look at that this evening, and we'll make recommendations to facilities. If we see that it'll be a benefit. And if it's something they, you know, have within their budget right now. Uh, because that's that's a big deal. It really



is. So, I know this. The The the crosswalk is a lot safer. Where? How many of you are here? When it was up by the main entrance. It was. It was a nightmare then, I mean literally. People were almost getting hit every day, and motorists were running it running that red light constantly, because there was just too much going on right there in that area. We've seen a really significant reduction in uh violations at that since they've moved the crosswalk. So it is safer than it was, no doubt, but definitely. If we've got a not time problem, we will look into that. Especially with the time change coming up soon. There's going to be more and more traffic out there uh during dark hours.

They discussed Gun shot detection implementation, and license to carry rules.

President Smith: I think I speak for all the students when we we, saying that we really really appreciate what you'll do. So. Thank you so much. I know that appreciation is sometimes not as vocalized, but we really do appreciate it.

Officer Reports

b. President Smith

So this past week I have been doing senator training and helping everybody get things ready for Midnight Breakfast, which is coming up so get excited. Um! It's a lot of fun If you haven't been a part of it yet. Um especially to actually getting to run it. And stuff like that, too. So it's a whole different experience. Um, we have a lot of cool things planned. Um, so it's going to be exciting, and we'll talk about that more next week. Um, yes, we uh Chloe is not here actually, so. I will go ahead and talk about that. Um! We did purchase certs. We purchased the ones that are the fully colored ones. Um! That has the pumpkin on the back of it, and the vine and everything. So, I think we got the ones that everybody wanted, and we ordered two hundred of them.

c. Vice-President Bennett

So a lot of What I've been working on to is getting stuff ready for a minute. Breakfast? Um! So I've been um finalizing, getting decorations together. Um getting them ordered. Uh, but also um with the suffer crater the Uc. Will be doing that again. Um, uh, we are not finalized on the different items uh that we will be giving. So you will have to wait till minute breakfast to see what what they got. Um, and just working with Landry to figure out, we haven't finalized it yet where everyone will be during when they breakfast. But we will have that ready for next meeting, so that's it.

d. Secretary Dix

Not it attendance.

e. Treasurer Luna

Yes, I think I can speak for uh, Robert as well when I say stress development night breakfast uh, but everything's working out. I'm really excited like I said last week, and probably the week before. Uh, I think it's going to be a really big event, and I mean huge. Um, i'm really glad to work once again uh just been getting all SGAC stuff ready. Uh, I was excited because I thought we were going to be meeting three groups this week, but i'll talk about it a little more whenever we do Committee reports. Uh yes.

f. Chief of Staff Peters



So, last week I met with a judicial board for the first time of the semester, and it was a good meeting. We went over roles and expectations. Um, I've mainly been getting um sorry the Rules Committee presentation ready that we're going to give him later today.

Committee Reports

a. Events

VP Bennett: Events Committee this week was pretty short. Uh, there's really only one thing that we had on the discussion that different routes of avenue for helping us pay for midnight breakfast, because breakfast for a tenth of the population, for the University is not cheap, surprisingly so. We've been working and trying to find different routes without any to help.

b. Communications

Senator McQueary: Um, Really, We just talked about the shirts that we were going to go with. That was pretty much the big thing. And then um making more posts for midnight breakfast like not really spamming the Instagram with them. But like making sure people know. Yeah, doing a lot more with it. But that's about it.

c. SGAC

Treasurer Luna: Like I said, I thought we're going to be meeting with three groups. So Beta, outside being the first minorities in business, and then the American Medical student association uh minorities in business. I had to clarify some things for them. They just didn't a lot of stuff, right uh. So we only really got to meet with Beta Appleside. They got approved. They were just asking for items for their painting or pumping painting party on the twenty-seven excited. I'm gonna try to go to that. It's uh like I said on the twenty-seventh, four to six, I believe she said. Um and then with the American Medical Student Association. They didn't show up. So yeah,

g. Rules

Senator: Which, just like Soren said, we'll be giving that presentation and um, maybe many more. In the future we will see very exciting environmental Sustainability Committee.

h. ESC

Senator Kirkby: We currently got a survey going up on when our meeting and the time is going to be, or the day and the time, and then um, if you want to join, still, just let me or Landry know we'll hook you up.

i. GSA

President Smith: Um. GSA, Graduate Student Association. We are going to be working on, and this is to graduate students. We are going to be working on getting that put together by next week. So, um, we're going to work out the details of that. We're a graduate student or senator in here, that is a graduate student, then. Um! I'll be reaching out to you, probably next week.

VI. Student Voice Reports

a. Victory Village

Senator Black: There's some plumbing issues, so they're um clarifying some of the issues with floor meetings in the next week or so. People are flushing inappropriate things that don't need to be gone. So they've had to do a lot of workforce to fix that. We have health and safety. Next week, the first ones went well. And we're having. I don't know if it's housing in general, or just like Victory Village. There's a lot more events. We we're constantly getting emails. I mean, It's nice. I hate getting emails, But I mean, we're constantly getting emails and the flyers up around about them.

Senator McAdams: Um, I know that we had room checks this week, and i'm pretty sure that a lot of people passed it. And then yesterday maintenance came by to change out the air filters



finally, cause they were not good. We will probably be having some events coming up soon, but I'm not sure when.

b. Ornellas Hall:

Um. I had a couple of students that are staying in a hall of report problems with the water pressure like it's, they say that there's barely any water that'll come out whenever they try to take a shower, and that they've reported it to the RA's.

c. Liberty Landing

Senator Govea: Local Liberty Landing pool is almost open just in time for November. uh they were planning on doing. An event is kind of like to re- to relaunch the pool, but I don't know how far that are going with our current uh weather, but other than that, there's another report resident having a good time on campus. How they has been doing housing hours and life has been to a lot more events that I can tell from uh the emails I've gotten from my student email.

Old Business

Nothing to add.

New Business

a. Rules Committee Presentation

Chief of Staff Peters: Rules Committee has been working on a presentation that would um add something to the Constitution. And what the change is is, it would be setting General Assembly at a certain time. So that means for the future we always have at the on the same day. At the same time. This would allow Senators to build their class schedule and extracurricular schedule around General Assembly, so we wouldn't have um the confusion right before school starts trying to find a time that works for everyone when everyone's already picked their classes. And since a lot of people are gonna be picking on classes, if not already, for the next semester. We'd be looking at adding this change, starting the Spring Semester so we could all pick our classes, knowing what time. Well, they'll still be the same for this year, of course, for next year everyone will know. So we we want it to lose anyone who's already in Student Government that still wants to be a part of it, just because um, there isn't really like a organized time that we need in the Constitution. And this is like a really good solution to that. If we have a time that set, then the expectation is that you would allow time like you would allow, like a gap in your schedule that you can attend General Assembly, since you know what it is for the future. So, I'm just gonna go to the next slide, because this is what it would look like in the Constitution. So, we decided to put it in the preamble section, adding a general Assembly section. And what it does is the person sort of defines what it is, and the second sentence, which um shows the time that we're meeting. So the time is subject to. I put Thursday at five thirty, because that's what we're doing now, and all of us are in this room, so we can all make it hopefully. So, with that, I'm going to open it up for questions or if you have any concerns about the time that it will be.

VP Bennett: Um, so I think it's a great idea to put it in there where it's in the Constitution where it doesn't change so that we can build our schedules around. I think one of the main issues that will arise is the Thursday portion, maybe putting it back on Tuesday per se, because I know at least for me, I've had um moments where I've had events that are on the weekends that are bled into Friday, and even into Thursday, that I couldn't have made it to General Assembly. Um! And so just in the future. Probably Tuesday would probably work better than Thursday.

President Smith: Um might push back a little bit on that. So the main reason why we've proposed potentially Thursday, or just really any day, or really any reason why we would have it



on a set day is not so much so for not so much so for the um events or anything like that that you know you might be missing because of General Assembly, because those are not necessarily the primary purpose of not attending General Assembly. It should be class, in my opinion. that's one of the reasons that if you're going to miss General Assembly, usually the only reason why you should be missing. It would be because of class.

Treasurer Luna: So uh a little background. Um, I like having like a specific day uh, because Thursdays really cuts into my internship hours. A thing that we could do, though, is maybe the semester before we all decide on what time would be a good time, and then uh, that is implemented to the next semester. If it makes any sense.

Senator Govea: I think it's important for us to set a a concrete time and the day be flexible. Tuesday Thursdays. The way classes are structured. If you have a Tuesday classroom one like. I have a Thursday class at the same time. So if you can't make it either way, your next next option would be a day that it's not one of those days, so either having it a two or Thursday, Wednesday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Monday, Tuesday Kind of structure. You get a pick from one of those two dates. But the time is going to say the same at five thirty. So you know, Yeah, the big share at least both of those are free for you.

Senator Vargas: So this is just a suggestion. But have you considered Wednesday? Because I know a lot of people who don't have classes on a Wednesday, and also because a lot of events fall on a Thursday and as student representatives, I feel like that we should be engaged in other events that are put on by student organizations and just show that we're involved with them as well.

Senator Holman: There's also a lot of freshman lab classes that are Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and a lot of psychology classes that are Monday, Wednesday, Friday as well. So it's kind of you gotta pick your own voice in there.

Senator McCain: I don't know this would be a possibility. But is there any way that we could look up the class times to see like, okay. A vast majority of classes are at this time like this day, or like the least amount of classes, are on this time of this day like, is there?

Senator Buchanan: Oh, I was just gonna say, yeah for college business, almost all of the night classes or Tuesday Thursdays. So um I know. I think it's different for every single college like you were saying, psychology or sciences is more Monday, Wednesday, Friday, so I don't know um. I know that, like I, I've had conversations with the Dean, and then also with the chair of Um, the both management marketing, accounting finance departments. Um about class times, and then asking what the best times is for people, so I know that is something that you can do as senators is. Go and talk to them, and voice concerns, saying, Hey, um! Can we like, change this to where classes are at different times, because right now this is not working for students and being involved on campus and doing things they want to do.

Senator Mattern: Um. Besides, the class schedule, and a lot of people are also involved in other organizations. Can we look in, look at when there are times are like? Are we already overlapping with another organization that a lot of us could be in.

Senator Black: I just as a comment, like for nursing students. I know that if you put it like, Obviously, you want us to in theory schedule our schedules around having this open time for



GA. But I legitimately didn't have my schedule until I fully fully validated until October first for my clinical and stuff. So you just have to be uh prepared to not have your nursing Senators some weeks, because their schedule is not same.

Senator McNamara: Um. So to comment on the idea that we put everyone's classes up, and like we try and decide to time. Is that what we're trying to avoid? And then like with the nursing thing like, Yeah, I still don't have my clinical schedule, and it's what halfway through the year. Um. But like I would be willing to like, reach out to them and like schedule it around it. So I feel like honestly, there's no excuse. That's just me, though.

President Smith: So Senator Holman has motioned to add the General Assembly definition, which is stated up there just the first sentence to uh the preamble, Seconded by Senator Govea.

Let the record show this vote passed.

Chief of Staff Peters: I just want to say Um, this is something that we do really need to do, because we don't want to lose any additional people that can't make it like, no matter what time we set it might cause problems with certain people. That's why it's our job to find the best possible time that works for the most amount of people, because it's impossible to work fully for everyone. It's our job on the best possible time that works for everyone, to be how it wasn't as we want to make it.

President Smith: So I did have to turn away three senators um that had one in the spring, and two of them are returning, so I don't like having to do that. Um again. We do not have to vote on anything.

VP Bennett: Uh, I do have to say for a next meeting. We will be having the majority of our conversation be directed towards midnight breakfast the week after, and then the week after that will be our discussions pretty much getting ready for the watch party, so if we are to table it probably not next week, or even the week after. It would have to be three or four, or even five weeks later, and we'll be starting to get into finals weeks towards the end of the year. So just wanted to make that known to you.

Senator: Um, I think the biggest thing is just like the fact that we have like a scheduled time, because I know I had to go through schedule change to fit this in, and that is just helpful to like. Know um early on, just like if we need to like, have a schedule change. So I think when people um in the time that like selecting like, go and all that stuff is going on, I think, as long as it's like early in the year, we can kind of like do that change Um! It's helping to know. And like even with that idea that you had going on, It's like even on days where there are more classes like, I know, for sciences. Monday, Tuesday. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. There are a lot of classes, but it's more of like when the time like. We mostly have classes in the morning, and like it's not really You're not going to have like chemistry like at eight. Those sound things happen in the morning, so I don't know, but I think it'll be great to like,



President Smith: I would be completely open to inventorying, like which, like, I guess, colleges or major groups, have their class times at a specific time. Um like if they occur on a Tuesday more often than they do on a Wednesday, and just figuring that out. Um, and then i'd be more than happy to present that information um to, Here's a crazy idea. We could create an ad hoc committee for that team to do that and um, Then you all could present that information back to the Senate.

Senator Barrett: Um! I will agree that I do like the idea of looking at previous class schedules and seeing which classes have regularly maintenance on the evenings, and I do believe that there's a way to look that up if you contact the academic success center. Um! I believe that you can look at previous catalogs to see patterns in that.

President Smith: We can simply just say that we are going to get more information, and that on us probably gets put on me and the Executive Board, and any other. So anyone else who's willing, or we could create an ad Hoc committee, and those who have an interest in wanting to do that and find a good time, or know the correct people um to contact um could be placed on that committee, and then that would also count towards um committee attendance. So, it's up to the Senate.

Chief of Staff Peters: I'll say one more thing. Um. We do still have one more semester we would. We would want this change to be added before the start of next year, because that wouldn't cause any problems. But we need it for future student government, so that there is a standard in our constitution, but it wouldn't be affecting us until on What is that? All? Two thousand and twenty three? Yeah. So just something you want. We do have time to deliberate.

VP Bennett: Uh, I motion to table this discussion until November tenth, to give us proper time to look into the proper dates and times. That would probably work best.

Let the record show this discussion has been tabled until November 10th, 2022.

Advisor Comments

Advisor Neaves: I was really impressed with a lot of good questions that you're asking. I always want to, and respectful uh to our guest speakers, I know parking as a various topic, not did a really good job of some parking questions, so a little worried. No, I it all worked out. Great um! The obviously the lot of focus on the the Rules Committee, I think having a set time is a great idea. Um, I think that will help a special one. Students are applying for elections. They know exactly what day and time, because, as a common question I get during meetings is when the zoom room meet. So it depends, uh, and so to have a set time. That would be good. Um. Most classes in by four Pm. Every day, so that that's standard across the board. Um, on Tuesday and Thursdays. Historically, there is time after around lunch that is open as well. So you don't some student garments that I've been at. Uh. They meet at lunch time, because this one students are very accessible, and students will attend uh, and so they don't think outside the box uh before you make it permanent, I guess. Once it goes into the Constitution, it's we're going to be locked in for a while. So, um just keep that into consideration. The other point I want to throw out there



is, if it's earlier in the week, like Monday. That gives you time for the rest of the week to address issues, because if issues are brought up on Thursdays, Fridays, people start thinking about the weekend and get ready to take off. And then, all of a sudden, you're not really following it up to Monday or Tuesday, and then it's on Thursday, and so uh Mondays and Tuesdays really are the best time uh to bring up issues and then use the rest of the week to take action on it. So uh, there's no right or wrong. And so, whatever you all decide that's up to you. And so I don't really have an opinion on that. And so those are just some advice that I wanted to give. Um. I know It's on here, and and you probably reinforce that. I really want to see our Student Regents applications and our Texas Higher Education Board student positions um increase. And so, if you know, soon as you might be interested in this cool opportunity. Please encourage them to apply. Any questions for me?

President Smith: Yes, uh student region and Texas Higher Education Board nominations. I'm going to keep announcing this until we get to the actual date, which is November twentieth. Um, please apply, even if you somehow, for some reason, think you won't, get it. Just apply. Um! It's a great opportunity. It's a great interviewing opportunity. Yes, grad students Historically I will say this to, although I hate this trend. But grad students historically, have been the ones that have been nominated for Board of Regents, but that trends every year. They choose. One turns closer and closer in favor to them, choosing an undergrad assistant or undergrad assistant choosing an undergrad um representative for student regent. Um. So every year they do that the odds are more and more in our favor. So I encourage you all to do that as well. If you're an undergrad, especially.

Announcements

No Senator of the Week this week due to lack of nominations.

Senator McNamara: Okay. So I had one of my friends call me, and she was like her kids go to Clarkson Elementary, and um, she said that they're having a trunk retreat, and they don't have enough volunteers, and if they don't have volunteers, they can't do it, and that's so sad because that's like I remember doing that as a kid. It's so fun, and I just don't want it to get cancelled for them. So I contacted the PTA president, and she said she needs about fifteen to twenty volunteers. Um! She sent a flyer Um! They're in need of trunks with games or decorations, volunteers for the food Table Face, painting, photo booth, and other games and volunteers will be awarded and signed off by the PTA President and Principal of Clarkson. If you're interested in this Um, it's if it's okay, I'm going to send the fire in the group chat and I'm going to send a Google Doc um with uh the sign up stuff. So please volunteer, and if you know anybody volunteer and i'm going to reach out to Greek life and see if they can get people because I do, I don't. I don't know anybody that goes to parks in, but it would be really sad if they couldn't have one. Yes, it is October twenty first from five, thirty to seven.

VP Bennett: So the Texas crisis Center every year does a truck or tree. And so last year uh SGA did a vehicle on. um is on the twenty third, not the twenty first, so don't worry it doesn't conflict with yours. Um! So it'll be October the twenty twenty third. The sun the Sunday before midnight breakfast and um! So I uh was going to go in and sign up a vehicle. Uh, does anyone want to do that for Trunk or Treat.



President Smith: I will say this to um. I haven't haven't had it finalized yet, but I mentioned that last meeting about um SGA service hours. This would potentially count towards that. So, like I said, we are planning, or at least I am planning, if nobody else does, to get some sort of award um at banquet that we would give out to whoever has the most SGA service hours. So not set and, but I'm working out the final details for that. Um, we're going to talk about that Our next E-board meeting, too. Um! But this could potentially count towards that. So Justin has as well as um, volunteered his vehicle. Um! Do we have any other people to come along as well, okay Soren. There will be candy provided but they ask you have some of your own.

Senator McNamara: So another thing about service opportunities. Um: If anyone was here the previous semester. We did a house painting thing with path. I'm trying to get that together for nursing. But would you all be in favor of having another one for SGA.

What that is: If anyone knows what path is, you know what path is. It's like a service thing, and Tyler, it's it's It's basically a uh, like a housing complex or housing company that goes and they help, maintain, create, and provide a low income Housing. It's in downtown Tyler, and we just like literally just go in like paint houses. It's fun. We can have me. We had music, we had pizza. It's snowed um, and I've done it with other organizations as well, and it's always really fun. They also do like other things like they have um case managers for people that like it's not just like they do everything. So it's a really cool organization, and it's really fine if you want to do that.

President Smith: One final thing, and then we're good to go um. Ashley Bill reached out to me. Um! She uh! I know that the advising ad hoc committee hasn't met yet, but she's planning to me after I has to meetings on the twentieth and the twenty seventh um she was warning. She has three people that have uh emailed her directly. And um she was. She knows that she talked to more senators that were interested, though. So if you were interested in that, please like in being on the ad hoc committee. Please email me um and let me know um. So that way I can send her that um, and that way. We have more than three people on it.

Next Week

Nothing to add.

Adjournment

Let the record show that the Senate unanimously voted in approval to adjourn the meeting at 6:53pm.