



The University of Texas at Tyler

Student Government Association

General Assembly Meeting

Thursday, September 8th, 2022

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

Name	Absent
President Smith	
Vice President Bennett	
Secretary Dix	
Treasurer Luna	
Chief of Staff Peters	
Adan Govea	A (approved)
Amelia McCain	
Ashlyn Mattern	
Bee Black	
Ben Buchanan	
Brandon Scott	A (approved)
Brennan McGinnis	A
Bryce McQueary	
Christine Barrett	
Emily Helms	
Glen Beran	
JJ Rojas	
Jorian Khan	
Justin Vargas	
Kaylin Sheppard	
Kyna Holman	
Lisa Tran	
Macie Kirkby	
Maggie Manning	
McKenna Waller	
Tanner King	A
Valerie McNamara	
Chief Justice: Chloe Burleson	

Let the record show the Minutes for the Sept 1st, 2022 GA Meeting were approved.

- III.
- IV. Open Forum



a. None

V. Speaker's Podium

a. AVP of Student Affairs and Dean of Students, **Andy Pettee**

Andy Pettee: Good evening, SGA. How's everybody doing? We're doing good? All right. So, let's talk. Do we want to talk about housing first? Okay. I see some nods. Help me know what types of things do you want me to share with you all about housing. Kind of, what are some of the things that you want to learn more about? The overflow did cancel a lot of contracts. They were all, if they had only online classes so we don't cancel contracts. So, and to be in the middle of the summer we had about a three hundred student waitlist, and so, as we got closer to July, we began to look at what we would call tripling a double room into triple room. It's a pretty consistent practice across the country, and why we do that is you'll notice that we were able to de triple pretty quickly this year, and I'll talk about that in a moment. But what we do is, when we manage occupancy, and we have such a high demand for housing. I will tell you that. I think you know we could build 4 residents halls and likely fill them right. There is a demand for that and that is actually very it's comforting to know, because that means students want to live on campus. I think that's a really good sign, right, so we triple these students. But we know that typically 3 to 5 percent of students don't come. So, we had a maximum of 48 rooms that we could triple still be in fire code. Still keep the hot water going and in O-Hall knowing that that was going to happen. So, at this point I believe there are 6 men who are still tripled, because we just don't have more spaces to move them to yet. But census was on the sixth and so census is usually the date where we're able to release rooms that that somebody had to deposited, and signed a contract for so a lot of times what we do is we wait for census, which is essentially the day that we count you as a student for the semester. So, the University uses census date to report attendance, to report our total student population to the State. It goes into funding, and all of those other great things, right. So, we wait for the shakeout of students who may not come for a variety of reasons. A student could transfer they could have a family emergency and they're going to sit out a semester, there could be a million reasons why a student may not come. So, we wait until that shakes out and then we de-triple so that I know I'm putting you in a space that someone else who had it reserved doesn't have it. Do we have students that cancel, yes, do we have students that don't show up, yes, that's usually pretty typical nationwide we see between 7 and 10 percent no show rates. we have a great no show right, and part of that, and what we do in housing to help with that. How many of you live on campus by those who raise their hand? How many times did housing call you this summer to connect that you were coming? So, we did that to reduce the no show rate so that we didn't have students on a waitlist or students in triples that didn't have to be. So, that's why our no-show rate is so low as we called 1,700 students at least 3 times over. The sum to make sure that they were coming, and we still had a little bit of a no show right. So, when we put students in triples, the goal is not to have them in triples for long. But the goal is really to help our students get on campus, have a bed, and then we will get you to a space as soon as it opens up. This year we were much more fortunate. How many of you lived in O-Hall last year? How many of you remember the broken pipe, the great flood of 2020? So, last year we couldn't triple because we had a where we couldn't de-triple until October and



November, because of the flood. So last year was an anomaly as opposed to this year, and so we're working toward getting those students, the last 6, de tripled very soon, so that's a little bit about why we triple, and how we triple for those of you who don't have any idea what I'm talking about, because you don't live on campus we put three students in a double room. We equip it with a third bed. Each of the students gets a discount because I know you might think about this, and say housing is trying to make more money. We're really not. That's why we discount the rate so essentially the three people that live in the room pay two people's rates while you're tripled. Now, what we're finding is that some students are like wait a minute, can I just stay in that triple because I'm saving like \$300 a month, and the answer is no. We want you to get to a space. The other thing that I warn students about is you're going get connected to those two other roommates, and you're not going to want to leave that trio. We also are seeing that now. So, your initial response or thought to it is this is going be the worst, and it actually ends that some students are like, can I please stay in this triple, and we say, no, because we don't want to run the hot water, we don't want to run the infrastructure all of those different things, so that may have been more than you ever wanted to know about what we would now call "trioing." But it is really just an making sure that if a student wants to live on campus that we do that because housing is a service right? We serve students by giving them a place to live close to campus into convenient, inconvenient to campus. So, the goal at the end of the day is to make sure you have a bet. That's our number one priority and we did tell students over the summer, we would actually let them cancel if they wanted to, because they did not want to live in a triple. We had very few students that took us up on that opportunity, but it wasn't it's not a money thing It's more of the we have such a high demand and students want to live on campus with us this is the best way we can do it knowing that there's going to be some no shows that will be able to fill in, as that process happens after census. So, if we were here talking next year, now, you'll know the "trioing" happens right after census right when we know those spaces are open. A student's not coming in two weeks late because they're academic program starts a few days later, you know, they had a family emergency and they're checking in a week and a half later that allows us to be able to do that. Any other questions about "trioing?" Any questions from Zoom is our zoom. attendees?

Senator Helms: We can reserve the spaces that we had previously, and then, while like over the summer like I was randomly moved it's not it's not a problem, but just like randomly move from what I was assigned or what I was selected as of last semester.

Andy Pettee: Really, that is a really good question. I will try not to get into the weeds of occupancy management too much, but I'll give you a perspective so this summer we put over 4 million dollars into the residential facilities flooring, new air conditioners. We also are putting in that wonderful walkway from Victory village to campus. So, all of those things that we did cost about 4 million dollars. Sometimes we have delays, right, in this current economy, supply chain and labor can put a project behind, and so Emily I don't know, and I I'd be happy to talk with you after about your individual experience. But, some of the rooms where we were putting in new flooring did not get done as soon as we needed them to ,and so our overall goal was



to get you into a space that was move in ready as opposed to a room (that is not), and this still did happen where we got rooms, and then we moved a student in the next day after the construction was done, and maybe it wasn't as clean as we wanted it to be. But we had to get you in that spot, and so my guess, Emily, is that your room that you were initially slated to live in, had some renovation or construction going on, and we weren't confident by the time that you were going to move in that it would be available and so that could be one (reason), We also had a couple rooms in Victory Village, that we had a big storm, and it put a small hole in the roof, and we found that out when it rained a couple weeks ago. Because we didn't know until we had a heavy rain so something as little as that can displace an assignment. We also last week had a dishwasher that we found out was leaking, and so we had to remove to students that were below that room to a different suite while we fixed the leak issue and the dry wall, right, and so there's a lot of reasons why an assignment may change and it's not because we don't want you in that space, it's because we want you in the best space that we can get you in that given time, given construction or the great Ornelas Hall flood of 2021. All of those good things right, and so my guess is we could talk offline Emily, about your individual experience, and I could look into it and see why, but those are going to be the primary reasons, is construction, unfortunate maintenance concern, or challenge that came to us on unexpectedly, which is going to happen when you have 1,700 beds on campus. Eventually something unexpected is going to pop up and going to impact our ability to house you in a particular unit. (inaudible question) Yes, sir, so good. The question was why couldn't we reserve that same space. My guess, depending on your academic standing is that you may have noticed that housing sign up changed last year, and our housing team came to SGA to talk about the changes. So, we are first and foremost charged with housing. First year and second year students. We want all of you to live on campus, and we do our best to find the best location for you. But given where you were living that may have been. So, in years past, students could pick any room that they wanted as a returner, and we had to slow that down a little bit because of the info the first-year students that we're receiving, and our first and second year live on requirement that we have. So, the live on requirement makes us have to look and prioritize our first- and second-year students in terms of housing. But of course, we want you to live on campus as juniors and seniors, if we can. So, this year, when housing sign-ups open in January, and I'll bring our assistant director of housing operations if you want to talk more about what that process is going to look like in the spring, you will have an opportunity to pick your room, depending on the facility you are in. So, if that's if that is going to be an upper class or a junior senior spot, you likely will have the opportunity to choose that again

Senator Vargas: So, my question is more like a hypothetical one. So, like as we grow, and stuff like what will happen to like Seniors and stuff, or Juniors, if there's not enough bed space for them, but they can't afford for like off-campus options like what kind of options would we provide them then?

Andy Pettee: Absolutely, so, I will tell you, how many of you are on the waitlist? Alright, so Soren, we'll use, Soren, as a hypothetical example, so, if you're on the waitlist and as we were getting closer, Soren could correct me if I'm wrong, but on about July fifteenth or so, our next round of calls on the waitlist. Do you have



somewhere else that you can go? Is there an apartment? Do you have a friend, do you have you plan? Could you stay at home? So, we started asking those questions and prioritizing our students that did not have another option, right. And so, at that point we started having conversations with students and I'll tell you one of the, I don't know if funny is the right word, I'll just go ahead and say it, we had some students that were like, "it's liberty or nothing, and when we said it probably won't be liberty," they said, take me off the list, and so it helped us prioritize Who? Who needed housing? I'm going to tell you right now, if any of you needed housing, we will get you housing but it may not be exactly what you're looking for. But we can get you to exactly what you're looking for throughout the semester. right? We don't charge for room changes you know when we talk about the difference between on and off campus. If you wanted, if you lived in Victory Village today, and you wanted to live in Liberty, and you knew about a spot that you wanted to go to with a friend, you can move, you talk to housing we'll coordinate the move, and you'll get going. So, I guess the overall message is if somebody needs housing, we will make it work, and that's part of why we tripled O-Hall. O-Hall was so that we could do that; we could prioritize students who needed to live on campus. If there is a student who says I needed housing, but didn't get it, I want to talk to them, because I don't think that would have happened, given the steps that we took to talk to the students on the wait list, to confirm students were coming, all of those different things that we did this summer. So, I hope, does that answer your question?

Senator McNamara: So what are the cleaning protocols? And is it required that every room is cleaned before we move in, at least for apartments, because I know that myself, and many, many other students have moved into just dirty apartments. So, what is the cleaning protocol, so rooms are cleaned?

Andy Pettee: I will tell you and I'll be very transparent with you; we hire a cleaning company that comes in. They cleaned over 4,000 apartments this summer between summer housing, orientation and camps and conferences. The hang up this summer, very specifically, was the flooring project, that put us at a deficit. We made a decision to do a lot of flooring this summer. I want all of our carpet out of resident's life as quickly as I possibly can. I don't know that I love carpet in a residence hall setting. Just going to be honest with you, and we are working and get all of that out of there as quickly as we can. So, we had a very large flooring project. The flooring project itself was over 2 million dollars in terms of the flooring that we did in Victory and Liberty, and we will continue to do those, but we learned given the economy that supply chain in labor slowed that project up much more than the contractors had initially intended, and so that put housing at a deficit to try and get those rooms cleaned as quickly as possible. So, I would say that next year I have a plan; we have a plan, and a strategic plan to work on that. I don't anticipate that to happen yet, so you're good.

Senator McNamara: So, what's the also the protocol for like move out at the end of the year, it just seemed kind of messy in the sense that especially between if we were going to summer housing like when we were supposed to move out, when we're



supposed to move in, I had no like contact with the housing people, and then I had 24 hours to move out. It's just a whole thing, and I know a lot of other people had that, too. So just wondering, are we supposed to call and tell them our final schedule, or how does that work?

Andy Pettee: That's a really good question there were some awesome things that happened that created some of that we had some awesome athletic teams who needed to stay later due to competition. Then we also had over 400 students. We had the most students living on campus this summer than we've ever had, and so what we learned about that, and going through cleaning and making sure those rooms are prepared. As we have a stronger communication plan this year that will be communicated to your checkout date and time much, much sooner so that you will know when and how. You know, we know about our awesome athletics program, and we know that our teams are going to be in postseason. That's really exciting but that just means that we now have to plan for some of that, and what that looks like. So there will be more communication housing sign-ups for spring as well. Don't quote me I think on October 15th, and around that same time we're going to start talking about fall or us fall 2024 sign-ups and checkouts. So, we're going to start getting information in your hands much earlier as we've made some strategic moves to plan to make that happen more seamlessly for you, so I anticipate more communication. We talked about this a few weeks ago about some of the ways that we can communicate better with you all. In terms of those transitions, and so one of the other challenges that we have is that housing never closes at the lowest time that we have students living with us. We have 400 students or more at any one time on campus 365 days a year. and so, when we look at that, it does make it a little messy. But we have made some strategic decisions that once it's approved. I'd be happy to come talk to you about summer housing. We have some academic programs that went to a year-round calendar, which is our nursing program. and so, we're working on waste to make their housing experience better as well, because if you are not a nursing student, typically our summer move out date is right around finals time for our contract. So, we're going to make some changes to make that smoother for nursing students, so that they're not disrupted and so that they have a smoother transition to the end of that summer semester and right into their fall. So, as soon as I have that plan approved I'd be happy to talk with you a little bit more about some of the things that we're doing to put ourselves in an even stronger position to make you transition smoother.

Vice President Bennett : So currently a victory, you get a commuter pass because you basically live off campus. So, whenever they build, finish building the walk, the walkway will we be next year be required to get an on-campus pass, or will it still say commuter?

Andy Pettee: It will still say commuter. Victory village will continue to have the commuter pass the walkway is going to be pretty awesome and there's a rumor in hint that we're going to do a pretty cool opening to the walkway that may include some sort of a fun run walk something to kind of commemorate it, and have students come out and see it as soon as we're ready with the lights and the cameras and those things. So, it's a pretty big deal to connect Victory Village that way, and Provide a safe



passage way for students who choose to walk and I think it's going to get used pretty well. We've moved the tree lines 30 feet away from the walkway, so that students don't you know we didn't want the Red Riding Hood walking through the forest from Victory village to main campus, and so, it's going to be light it's going to be bright. There's going to be safety if somebody were to twist their ankle, the walkway is wide enough for a police car in an ambulance to come through. Not that we ever expect that to happen, but we always want to be prepared, so that emergency vehicles can use that traverse way to support students in the campus community.

Senator Mattern: I know we had brought it up last year about the gate at Victory. How there's a hole I just wanted to say thank you for fixing that. I felt like that was a big priority and it's nice now, and I can tell you that has been on the docket for a while.

Andy Pettee: That is, that was something that it took a while to be able to get the equipment to be able to do that. And then there's also some staircases that were eroded from the winter storm. Those have been corrected at this point are almost done at this point. And so, Victory the gate should be up. The walkway should be good. And then we had a little snap with the liberty landing gate overnight. I don't know how many of you live there but the good got broken. We're working on getting that fixed right away I just my kindest request is, if the case is not working, please call the RA on duty. There's no reason to drive through it there's no reason to drive over it. There's no reason not to just call the RA on duty we'll get you in there. I promise our goal is not to keep our students out so my joking and serious request is, please don't do that. That is an expensive fix when we lose the arm gate. and it gets hit, and all the internal parts get bent, you know It's not just putting a new arm in there right. And so, my strong, strong request is, please tell you your friends to call the RA on duty. We'll get you in and if for some reason your ID is not working, it's just expensive, so we'll get the Liberty gate up as quickly as possible, so up the gates he said up, they fixed the gate, so that's good. That means the arm didn't get bent. Last time somebody drove through it, it got bent, and it probably was like \$3,500 to fix, and it took 2 weeks to get the parts in. So, I'm really glad to hear that our team our maintenance team first of all is fantastic and that means that they got on it right away, and we're able to fix it.

Treasurer Luna: So, I had a question whenever you brought up light, that reminded me that I was in the library yesterday, and walking out to where, like Patriot Village is, it's super, super dark. I don't know if anyone has mentioned maybe some light like in there, or anything I would even thinking about like a Senator project being like there. It's just a little dark.

Andy Pettee: Yeah, you know I had a conversation with SGA last year, and I believe SGA did a safety walk.

President Smith: Yes, and we are going to be doing that again. probably whenever it gets little bit more cool.



Andy Pettee: Absolutely, and so, my strong recommendation would not be just to look there, but to walk the entire campus and we usually do it dark or darker, so that we can see are there areas that aren't well lit. Are there areas of concern so that we can put that on the radar to put lighting in to make corrections? I sometimes even think about, are there sidewalks that are a trip hazard? Or you know, sometimes they get chipped or all of those things, and so I think that's a really great thing, because it provides you the opportunity, it provides our leadership at the University to take a peek and see where are some areas that there may be concerns where you want more lighting. I think that's a fantastic thing to look at is to see where we can put some lighting in, and where we can find some funding, if there are some areas that are dark.

Senator Manning: So, like with the housing like with the contract that you have to sign like when you come in, is that because you're talking about how like the plan is going to change like when you actually make it like check out procedures? Is that going to change in the contract? Because, like I was in summer housing, but then I went from not like going into like fall sign or like, yeah, fall assignment. So like is that going to be different for like people who are on or off campus like if that makes sense like they're going to be different procedures for that, because it's kind of like, if references different things in the contract, but it was just kind of confusing.

Andy Pettee: We do have students who want to hang out in the resonance halls longer than that, and part of the challenge is to be very gentle, and saying, you cannot do that. Because when you feel a delay in your moving it could be because somebody is not checking out when they're supposed to. And so that is part of the communication plan is to get that out to students in advance. We're going to tell you if your last final is on April 12th, you'll need to be out by April 13th. So, we're going to be more, yeah, more communication but also giving you that right. We know when your last final is and we need you to move out on this day, and that allows us to not have some of the challenges of maybe moving into a room that isn't as clean as we'd like it to be or making sure that we have the time to properly prepare it and so I would expect communication either in the spring, when you're checking out, or if you're living here over the summer, of when your last final is and when you'll check out. So, I think that will resolve both of those challenges, because what I think people don't always understand is that it is a domino effect and a puzzle. When you have 1,700 students living on campus and you're going to have 400 of those transitioning, and then we've got some students staying over for academic reasons or for university it's kind of a puzzle, right? We have to figure out, where are you gonna go, and how are we gonna get you there? And then any time there's a snag and sometimes students have a really good reason not to move out at that moment like something bad happened, and they had to go home and we want to be sensitive to those students and so that's also a reason why your assignment might change. Somebody may not have been able to check out, or they may have hurt their ankle, and they need Mom and Dad to come up, right. And so those are all the little variations that can throw a little bit of a challenge into our puzzle in our plan, and it also doesn't help, and I love this that we're fully occupied, but that gives us very little breathing room when one when one person doesn't move It's going to affect about 10 people, and so we're gonna work with you to do that all I ask back is that we have cooperation with checkouts and



check-ins. Because that does impact all of our all of our students. It will at least 10 people when one person doesn't move because there's all of these other domino effects that need to happen. So, we will do our best job communicating that clearly and working with you. Your RA's are gonna come talk. We need is that level of cooperation and understanding that it's not that we're trying to bully out. It's that we have other students that need to move, so you can go on and do whatever you're needing to do.

Senator McCain: Yeah, so I just wanted to ask if there were like any future long term plans to implement more housing?

Andy Pettee: Yeah, so that's a really good question, absolutely we had done some evaluating right before. and I promised I wouldn't say this today but I'm gonna say it, right before COVID happened, right, and so at the time that COVID first came, we had done a feasibility study. We had been looking at what type of hall we should look at a bed building where it should go. We had hired a firm to help us get going on this, and then COVID hit, and we said what if we can't pay for this because we're not gonna have many people in housing, right we had no idea when COVID first hit what that was going to look like. And so our first thought was, we probably should halt this until we see what the environment is going to look like, because if we build a resonance hall and I'm going to tell you those are very expensive buildings, we had to look at that and understand what the impact was going to be so we're picking that conversation back up. It will take between 24, and 36 months to get a residence all built in this current economy. So before, it used to be 18 to 24 and sometimes even faster, depending on where you're at. But we're probably gonna be in a housing crunch for a few years, and so I don't say that to to be a downer, I just want us to be realistic that even if we hit the button today to build the fastest we'd probably see it as 24 months, and so we're gonna have to keep working together. We're gonna have to keep finding, and I know housing is important. I know there's a housing crunch in Tyler which is why, if somebody tells me I have nowhere else to go, I'm gonna find you a bed, right, the year before we had to use a hotel because of the flood. So, we had students in hotels until October, and I want you to know when that happens, we don't charge the student, right. We take that cost on ourselves. So, at the end of the day, Yes, we are looking at options. There will likely be some communication coming I wanna say soon, but it is one of the top priorities of our senior leadership on campus, because it is important, and if students want to live on campus, and you've all heard me probably say this before. I think it is super important, right? I think it is a great experience. it's convenient you don't have to drive if you don't want to. You can work on campus you can do everything here, and so, there's a huge value to living on campus, and if students want it. If you're a grad student and you want and I want you to be on campus, because I believe in the on-campus experience, so we will be looking at additional housing. It's just a matter of how quickly we can do that.

President Smith: We'll have one more question with Senator Vargas, and then, if there's one question after that we'll do that, and it will be done.

Andy Pettee: I will be here as long as you will allow.



Senator Vargas: So, this question is about like the trail going from Victory, So is there gonna be like plans to add like additional lighting to the trail, or like maybe an emergency like stationed there too, as well, just because I know at night it gets pretty dark on that trail from what I've seen driving by it.

Andy Pettee: It's gonna be bright there's gonna be blue light boxes. There's gonna be cameras right there's gonna be everything that we could possibly do to make it safe and I it we will definitely do that. That was one of the requirements when we started looking at that walkway. I wanted blue light boxes. I want it over lit. Not that anyone who lives in in Liberty, whose windows might face that way, are gonna be like blinded by the light. but it is going to be lit. It is meant to be pedestrian, it is meant to be safe, and those were the requirements to be able to do that.

Senator Waller: So, it's fairly new that Greek Life gets to move in slightly early compared to other students just because we start our recruitment the week before school starts. We had a lot of girls this semester come in, and they would check in like 8:00 AM, and that would be their first time knowing, hey, you might not get your room today. So, there was a lot of lack of communication that was happening. And while we're very grateful that you guys are making that accommodation, for us we also have girls who are leaving it 4:00 AM from their homes, so that they can get here at a certain time, so that we can start things later in that day, so I was wondering if that's just part of the hiccups of starting up something new, or if there is maybe just like a little road bump that you guys were seeing?

Andy Pettee: Part of the what I would consider the tradeoff of moving in early right is likely you were waiting for your room because it had just been released, and we had cleaners going to it right, and that would be the only reason that you would not have been able to move in right when you arrived, and so, we don't charge students to move in early. We don't want necessarily to do that, right, we want to be, like I said, Housing is a service to you all, right. We want to do those things and so I anticipate based on the strategy that we're doing with summer projects and summer housing and occupancy which I'll talk about as soon as the plan is approved I promise, you all can have me come back anytime, that will be remedied moving forward. Yes, so I hear you. I do understand that, and I also do ask for a little grace with early move ins, because I will tell you, my team is actually in training when early movements happen. So, we pause our RA training to be able to get students checked in for early move ins. Whether that be Greek life. We have academic programs. We have student athletes that move in early, and so our team gets pulled away to do that. Because we think it's important right so I think that you will see a smoother process next summer, as we manage our summer projects different.

President Smith: Alright, thank you for coming! We appreciate it thank you for answering our questions. Hope we didn't keep you too long.



Andy Pettee: Awesome you just let me know I'd be happy to talk with you. I appreciate the engagement and the questions. these were all very good. I have an open door to all of you on the third floor. Some of you use that regularly, and I love to see you, but please just come see me if you have any questions you don't have to wait until the next time I come to SGA or any you can see me in the University Center over in housing my door is always open to you. If you have questions concerns you want to know about something, I'm a pretty transparent and open human being, and I'll give you any information that I have to help answer any questions or needs that you have. So that goes for distance campuses as well, absolutely, open zoom door as well So, okay, well, thank you so much for the time, and if there's anything you need or there's something you didn't get to ask, send me an email or kind of swing by and we'll sit down and we'll chat about it. Thank you.

VI. Officer Reports

a. President Smith

So this past Tuesday I met with President Calhoun, and I got to really engage with him, and get to see where his priorities are with the year, not like a 5 year goals, or anything like that. I got to see his priorities for the first year. and that was very insightful, and I think there's going to be ways that Student Government can definitely help fill in the gaps. Later in the fall we will be having Cabinet come and visit during our General Assembly. And of course, as you all know, you will have heightened dress requirements whenever they do come. But that'll be a very insightful meeting as well, and that was most of my week, aside from a few organizational things.

b. Vice-President Bennett

I've pretty much just been learning the ropes of patriots engaged learning who our vendors are, and who we will contact to be able to put together events and everything.

c. Secretary Dix

This week I did the minutes for the first time, so that was really exciting to learn how to do that, and the formatting that I wanted to do. I have met with Rob and Landry about and Maggie, she's the SAAC Advisor, about anti-hazing week that's coming up it's the 19th through the 23rd so just have that on your radar. I did post about it already, and there'll be more posts coming through so repost them as you can. Communications committee met today for the first time, so we'll have more to say about that in committee reports.

d. Treasurer Luna

Hey, everyone, I'm gonna look at this little sticky note, but main things I've done are... is so events already started been buying things, so we have it down. I don't want to forget it, so let me know what we're spending already, and then I just gathered up documents and stuff that we needed for our first SGAC meeting that we had yesterday, and then think it's Jorian that's gonna go into it whenever we talk about committee reports.

e. Chief of Staff Peters

So, I've just been going through other Universities Constitutions just looking for inspiration and ways to further improve our own, and then just adding more ideas to the Rules Committee list. We haven't met yet, because of Labor Day.

Committee Reports



a. **Events**

Did not meet this week.

b. **Communications**

Senator McCain: We met for the first time today. We basically just kind of went through like the idea of making posts and stuff for things, and potentially talking about like future things specifically on Instagram, and just social media things like ideas that we can post. So just kind of went through that, and we definitely talked about promoting anti-hazing week, which I believe is not next week but the week after, I believe. Yeah, and so we started talking about that, and just making posts, and how to best promote that.

c. **SGAC**

Senator Khan: Hello, everybody! I hope you have a good evening I'm Jorian Khan and I'm down in Houston. This week we had our first meeting, we had a nice reading of our rules and regulations as well as what rule Student Organizations need to abide by in order to get funding.

We also had a visit from the Muslim Student Association, and they were seeking funding for a welcome back event that was approved. So, we look forward to seeing their event and then our next up on the document, I believe, is the Women in Science and Math, they're coming to seek some funding as well, so we had a nice successful first meeting, and I look forward to attending some more.

d. **Rules**

Did not meet this week. (Meets Monday's at 5:30)

e. **ESC**

Did not meet this week. (Needs a new chair)

f. **GSA**

Did not meet this week.

VII.

VIII.

Student Voice Reports

a. **College of Business**

Senator Mcqueary: There's not a whole lot going on everyone's just kind of kicking off. Still, the big thing is today there was like a career fair Prep. like getting you ready for the career fair, and that's actually gonna be happening on October 6th from 11:00 to 2:00, so if you're an upper classman or getting that way, trying to figure out what you want to do with your life, probably go to that, I got my internship through one so they're pretty useful. So that's about it for right now.

Senator Buchanan: I was just gonna point out, I'm a part of a couple of different other organizations, and we are going to try to get a student organization fair for the college of business going and it's going to be in October and so we're gonna, I'm gonna email all the different faculty advisors for all the organizations to have a couple of different days where they can table do different things of giving out college, business apparel, and then like snacks and stuff like that. And then we're also gonna be doing a student forum, which is gonna be in November, and just so to see if there's anything that we can improve on for the College of Business.

b. **College of Education and Psychology**

Senator Vargas: Alright, so, there's not too much to report more so on student issues, but more so. just as what I've been up to recently. Robert has been planning for the finals like gift bag things that we usually do towards the end of every semester. I had reached out to former Dean Hicky about, you know any stuff that they may have from the College of Education psychology to give out, and then that's when I found about the rather abrupt change in Deans he's like, Oh, yeah, by the way, Dr. Sass is now, and so I got to work with her a little bit towards the in there



she's will be a great interim at the very least, which is nice, because I know her outside. I taught her kids swim lessons and stuff which is always fun. But that's really it so right now they're currently on the look for a new Dean. Don't know how long that's gonna be but that's all I've got at the moment.

c. Liberty Landing

Nothing new to add (Senator Govea not in attendance)

Old Business

Nothing to add.

New Business

a. Budget Approval

President Smith: I entertain a motion to discuss our budget.

Carried and Seconded

Treasurer Luna: This is gonna be what I've decided, or not decided but kind of move everything to since we aren't paying for the disc golf course anymore. I was really kind of find out where was the best place to put that money, events, and then SGAC being the ones that like, spent a lot of money last year. So, I type in it there. most importantly, I wanna include the satellite campuses, and there you go.

President Smith: Any questions, comments, concerns. The question was, how much bigger was is there this current budget without the expenditures that was used for the disc off course last year? And the answer was the same, but I don't think that is the correct answer. According to the disgruntled face on our advisor. Yeah, yes, so it is the same total amount of our budget, but we don't have the disc off expenditures eating into our budget this year, so every year we have \$28,959. Last year we had, I don't know how much but a lot eating into our budget to where we cannot maintain a lot of, it was \$14,000. Okay, it was around \$14,000, I believe. Yes, this is our yearly budget.

Let the record show that the budget was approved by majority vote.

b. Calendar Approval

President Smith: I entertain a motion to discuss the SGA calendar.

Senator McNamara: Carry said motion.

Senator Vargas: Seconded.

Vice President Bennett: Sorry all I don't have a very fancy presentation for you but it's pretty much just a couple of dates for us, so Constitution Day will be next Friday September 16th. Midnight breakfast will be October 26th, the midterm elections watch party will be November 8th that's pretty much the dates that we have in terms of the spring semester. We are looking at having Mini breakfast be the Wednesday during homecoming. That is not set in stone. Oh, we



don't want to plan too far into the future, and then things come up and we have to change everything. So that's pretty much the calendar yeah, we'll be voting on this.

18:23:45 As well. so any questions, comments, or concerns. **The dates were then repeated.**

Secretary Dix: Are the Canoe Races still up in the air?

VP Bennett: Because wellness is apparently doing a new race as well, which is apparently next Thursday. Great, I guess we're not doing it. Do we want to do it?

President Smith: I think this is a discussion for events Committee.

Senator Vargas: Motion to vote on the SGA Calendar.

Senator Manning: Seconded.

Let the record show the SGA Calendar was approved by majority vote.

c. Senator Swear-in(s)

President Smith: Moving right or along to Senator Swear-in I would like to introduce Amber McAdams. You can come down to the center and kind of introduce yourself if you'd like. She had reached out to me, and she had expressed interest in being an O-Hall senator, and after confirmation from the Residence Coordinator which, as of right now, is serving as our system for nominating centers for residents housing. She was approved by her Residence Coordinator and she will now be sworn in.

Senator Vargas: Why UT Tyler?

Amber McAdams: I'm currently a cap student for UT Austin so I chose UT Tyler because I saw it was a nicer campus. I had more options to be able to choose better classes to have one on one with the professors. It's smaller community, and I like it so that's why.

Treasurer Luna: Hey, my name is Beverly, so, besides, now, SGA, what else are you involved in?

Amber McAdams: Currently I'm creating a cap program for other cap students, so we could meet up have meetings with each other, help each other out. So, once we move to Austin we already have a low community within ourselves, and then I'm also part of the debate team and I'm looking to other organizations.

Let the record show that Amber McAdams was sworn in as an O-Hall Senator.

Advisor Comments



Advisor Neaves: Yes, I can I'll get an update on how the first part of the meeting. I'm sorry, was not able to attend I do want to encourage everyone ,when you leave here we do have a lot of events going on, on the campus right now, which is a good thing that good problem to have. The international dinner is still going on, so if you would like to swing by.

I think that's a great opportunity to get to Know some of our international students as well as they have a lot of free food, and so we always want to make sure we get rid of food, appropriately, and never thrown away after you get to go check that out. I'll check out our two soccer teams they are playing today. We wanna make sure that we support athletics and check out some of the competition. And so, so far, all of our fall teams are doing fantastic so it's exciting to see your fellow peers compete. I love the budget right now. That was pretty cool I don't think in, I'm on year eight, and I don't think i've ever seen it broken down that way, and so kudos to Beverly and in the E-board for presenting a budget that I think is very different very unique. There are two things that come to mind, more commitment to our student groups and funding. Of the last couple of years, Student Government has done a great job of supporting our student organizations and getting the money back to the students. And so I think that's gonna help but it's also gonna take more work, and so I hope that committee is ready to go shameless plug if you're on that committee make sure you show up. For those meetings. the other thing that came up I was that you'll have created a new section for distance campus for projects. In addition to keeping events, and so I think it's pretty clear. And so hopefully, if you could continue to utilize your budget, it would be a good argument to go back to the Student Fee Committee, so we need more, so we can keep giving back to the students. And so I'm excited to see you all maximize as well as budget. The last student government last fiscal year did a great job, and so yes, I think some moves from the desk up project. But it still went back to students. I think that's always important that we are good stewards of student fees. I like the calendar of events, I've had a few conversations with Robert about Constitution Day, and it's exciting to see that event continue to grow and so I'm excited that I think this is the first year it's an all-day Constitution Day and so I think that's a cool opportunity and kudos on the quick housing, right? Because that's always great to hear and I our speaker's podium was the Dean of Students so, I'm sure that there were some 1,000 questions, and so that's good to make sure that we continue to have a place for our students, and having those housing representatives are very important. Make sure to promote elections. All elections are typically a smaller election and but it's still equally important that you get out there and tell your friends and your constituents to make sure to vote and make sure to say on top of your committees because That's where all the work gets done so that way these meetings and at a reasonable time. Otherwise, you're gonna be here and discussing that. Other than that, everything looks great. Keep up your work. I'm excited to see this group grow after this meeting is adjourned, I need to see the Executive Board, Ashlyn, and Maddieto stick around. Alright, thank you.

Announcements

President Smith: I will actually be reaching out to you all this next week. I know, I said this last week about university committees. The reason being is that we will hopefully be having our freshman Senators be sworn in next meeting, because the ballots will open Monday, and we'll close on Wednesday. I think we set around. We say 3 pm is the closing time. I don't quite remember either, but if you know of anybody that is interested in running, the last time to apply is tomorrow by 12:00PM. So, all you need to do is fill out the form. If the person wants to campaign, they do have to do a candidacy meeting, but they fill out the form, they will be put on the ballot and then that's it



Next Week

Nothing to add.

Adjournment

President Smith: I entertain a motion to adjourn this meeting.

Senator Vargas: Carried said motion.

Senator Manning: Seconded.

Let the record show that the Senate unanimously voted in approval to adjourn the meeting at 6:34pm.