

# Student Government Association

## The University of Texas at Tyler

*November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021*

- I. Call to Order 5:32pm
- II. Roll Call

Name	Absence
President Jennings	
Vice President Stavinoha	
Secretary Mattern	
Treasurer Limbrick	
Chief of Staff Smith	
Senator Arnold	
Senator Barria	
Senator Bennett	
Senator Black	
Senator Chawner	
Senator Chin	
Senator Collins	A
Senator Dix	
Senator Dohadwala	
Senator Flores	A
Senator Gouvea	
Senator Govea	
Senator Harris	
Senator Harrison	
Senator Henry	
Senator Johnson	
Senator Luna	
Senator McGinnis	
Senator McNamara	
Senator McQueary	

Name	Absence
Senator Melendez	
Senator Rojas	
Senator Rosario	
Senator Ruiz	
Senator Scott	

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**President Jennings:** I entertain a motion to vote to approve the minutes.

**Vice President Stavinoha:** Carried said motion.

**Senator Bennett:** Motion seconded.

Let the record show that the minutes were unanimously voted in approval.

**IV. Open Forum**

a. None

**V. Speaker's Podium**

a. Mike Medders, University of Texas at Tyler Chief of Police (tentative as of 10/28/21)

It is always nice to speak with student, especially SGA. A lot of our goals are the same, we want to work close with the students to address any concerns that you have. Really, I would just like to answer questions about parking. I am not sure if I have answered all your questions you have asked but I am certainly open to answer any questions now. Okay, as far as any reimbursements go, if I remember correctly, there were some reimbursements for times the campus was fully online. That is a financial services question. All that we use some of the money, we don't directly control those accounts. I am not exactly sure how any refunds go. As far as the parking funds in general from the parking permit revenue generated, and for parking citations, it is by law to use those funds for anything parking related-whether it be parking lot repair, safety, lighting. We can slo fund positions that deal with parking lot or safety. Those funds are never used for anything outside the scope of parking. I know there were some additional questions about the commuter permits. A question came up about why we have the parking rule, the growth of the university and the lack of parking at the time, we only had UPines and Patriot Village. We now have much more. This has brought a lot more parking on campus. The way the parking rules work is whether it be residential facilities or main campus, everything is on campus parking. Residential facilities pay for the same parking as commuters student do. Residential has gates but the commuter students cannot park within those for security reason. Plus the fact that residents should have a place to park because they live there. So we institute that rule due to the growth because we did not have enough parking spaces to accommodate all of the new students and residential students on the busy days. The difference is with the residential students, even though they have to walk, they are guaranteed as parking spot in the residential facility where the commuters are not. Again, the only reason for it was because of the lack of parking spaces. You may look at campus now and it is a little different than it was a year ago because of covid. I know a lot of people went online and we constantly evaluate. We had a lot of questions from the University's committee chair about parking and desired changes we would like to see and we told them we evaluate the semester and see what the parking situation looks like. And we will do the same for the residential parking. If we ever get to the point where we know we have enough spaces on campus, it will effect our ability to park everyone. Rules are subject to change. Right now there are a lot of rules in the way. Another question that was asked was why do residents have a different colored permit, well one is for security of residential facilities. This can tell us if someone is over here that is not supposed to be over here. SO it is kind of heightens security for residents. Because of the residential rule in place, if you come over to campus as a resident, it is easy to identify because of the color. That is the primary reasons for the difference in permits. But all students plat the same fee regardless. Whether they are a commuter or residential student. Y'all probably don't know it but all faculty and staff pay more than you guys do. We are now up to \$120 a year where students are up to \$90, we all pay more than the students. I mean everyone on campus, whether it be police department employees, everyone buys one to park on campus property.

**Senator Chin:** I have gotten complaints about the basketball courts blocking off parts of the parking lot at liberty landing, I was wondering if you have any feedback or things you can help residents with?

**Chief of Staff Medders:** That is the first I have heard about it being an issue. I will definitely talk to Scott Hendershot, the director of resident life, and let him know about that. I will get his input and get backwash you. That is the first I have heard about it, but I can understand the concern if they are taking up a significant amount of parking.

**Senator Bennett:** I was just wondering, is there any plans for the near future to add more parking to campus?

**Chief of Police Medders:** There is a lot going on right now as far as master plans. Where building are going to go and residential facilities. That is constantly a work in progress, that is another thing I can get an update on. There is things with covid going on. As far as that matter, some faculty and staff are more online because of covid. Because of that, we really haven't had a parking shortage this fall. When you are going to see the significant shortages, it is usually the very beginning of the semester. It will generally wind down and we can accommodate everyone. As far as any future plans, I cannot speak about that right now. But as these new buildings are in plan, new parking lots will be addressed appropriately. As of right now I do not believe there is a shortage, I know because we can park everybody and still have spaces left over.

**President Jennings:** I would like to change gears a little bit. With all UT systems, we discussed students having a significant level of distrust with the police. Here at UT Tyler, I do not believe we have any instances, it does not seem to be a big problem. I just wanted to hear from you, do you guys work to make a positive relationship, do you guys have any informal settings with students to meet you. How do you maintain that positive relationship?

**Chief of Police Medders:** That is a great question. I know overall in the last couple of years, you know police departments, police have brought some things on themselves, but there has been a negative perception on police in the media itself. Here at UT Tyler, it is our goal to work closely with the student body. One thing I do as chief, either me or a member of my staff, usually me, every summer attends every freshman orientation sessions, speaks with the parents, whether it be me or a member of my staff speaks with the students. So even the freshmen coming in, we let them know of all the services we provide and the fact that we cant keep this campus secure and safe without the eyes and ears of everyone. We talk about the see something, say something, we encourage to be involved, we put on presentations throughout the year. We put on self-defense classes, the RAD program, you might be familiar with that. We've done a couple of those recently. Every time we can meet with a residence assistant in housing, we do that. Any type of chance we have to work cooperatively with the student body, we know that is in our best interest. Our officers here are very much community oriented and it is my philosophy as well as every officer that we are here as part of your educational process. We would not be here working as police officers if it weren't for you. We put students first, we do not have very many negative encounters with students as opposed to others. We know that you are serious about your future and education. We are here to help you get through those, even when sometimes students misstep and go outside the law. When it comes to minor violations, we try not to put students in jail. We try to send them through the student judicial process here. Occasionally something serious enough will happen where we have to take student to jail. We try to be apart of the educational process. I have been here for 16 years as chief, I am very fortunate and blessed to have the people here working alongside of me that ive been able to have throughout the years. But, it is very rare that we'll have a complaint from a student about a manner in which they were handled and talked ot by the police. Again from me down to the youngest patrol officer, we instill it into the that we are here for yall. Again, we would not be here if it weren't for you. I think that we have a great working relationship with the students. Probably our biggest problem right is it is not a UT Tyler problem, it is a national problem and a shortage of personnel right now. Recruitment of police officers is really tough right now for whatever reasons. We have less interactions in the last year than we have had in previous years just due to manpower shortages but when we get staff, the more we can get back out there and participate in student activities and have a representative there and work the students and answers any questions they have.

**Senator Harrison:** I just have a quick related question to that, so are officers required to wear body cams? If so, are they required to be on at all times?

**Chief of Police Medders:** Officers are required to wear bodycams. We issue the body cams here as you can probably see ive got one on right here. They are required to have them on with any type of interactions. They are not constantly recording due to just space issues and battery issues but anytime that they go on a police related call or they make a traffic stop, they are required to turn them on. That is a very good point, I love body cameras. Not only does it keep everyone honest, the video does not lie. Whatever happened happened. So if we get a complaint on an officer, I am easily able to confirm or deny that complaint. Or if an officer does something wrong on a call, whether it be officer safety wise or the way he talked to someone, you know the video says it all. I love them, it makes everyone more accountable and clears up bogus complaints on officers. Before body cams, you would be surprised how many people came in and would lie about what police officers did. But now, when they do that, they do it less because they know we are wearing them. Most of all, from my perspective, it holds our officers accountable and myself, I review body cam all the time, body cam and in-dash camera vehicle

cameras, just to make sure officers are operating safely. If they are not doing things that put themselves, or civilians in danger in traffic stops, like where they stand. If they invite a citizen to get out of the car to do a citation or whatever it may be, make sure they are not standing in between cars, things in that nature where they could get the citizens hurt during the course of a traffic stop, whether it be officer safety when they go into an apartment and they have to discover alcohol or drugs or whatever it may be, the body cam will show if they are operating safely or not and it will tell me if they are interacting with out students the way they should be. And like I said, it is very rare I find an officer doing anything on video that would warrant a complaint. I think our officers do a very good job with talking to people and that's my goal you know to de-escalate situations as opposed to escalating situations I think they do a very good job with that. That is a very good question, and the short answer to that is yes, they are required to have those body cams on anytime they are dealing with a police related call. You may see them outside walking around campus, someone might stop to ask them a question and they probably will not have them on. Unless it is something that will lead to a police call right at that moment. Our officers do just talk to people and I encourage that because that is how we do our jobs as community policing. Getting out here and discovering what their issues are and working with them to find solutions. Generally those are on and you will know they are recording, you'll see an officer walking around and mine is not on right now because I am in the office and preserves the battery, but when an officer turns the camera on it'll have a green light on it on all the time and when it is recording there will be a red light. So when you see officers out, you will know whether they are recording or not.

**Secretary Mattern:** Okay, I know that other schools have an app which can contact the police and everything. We have that don't we? And if we do, can you lie explain more about that and what it is called.

**Chief of Police Medders:** We do, it is called the RAVE guardian app. You can download that, it is completely free and what the app does, it is great for assisting with your safety on campus. You can dial us directly with the push of a button, our 24/7 dispatch center here. You can be in touch with a dispatcher, you can call 911, you can there is a directory with other campuses phone numbers within that app. Commonly needed departments that you have quick access to. You can also texts us. If you are in a situation where you are not comfortable with getting on the phone and talking to someone because of someone around you, you can text us. We have a computer in dispatch that is running 24/7 that is running strictly devoted to the rave guardian app. It is a constant line of communication if you need to communicate with us. What I really like about the app is the safety timer feature. SO if you are studying late at night and are walking to your on-campus residence and you know it takes you 10 minutes to get there, you can set that safety timer and if you do not deactivate that in the specified time period, we will get an instant alert and dispatch and as long as you have your location services turned on, we will be able to see where you are. You can see how that can save lives. If something has happened, whether it be medical related or some type of criminal activity that has happened to you along your path, we can actually see where you are and as long as your location services are turned on, we can actually follow the phone to locate you. We heavily advertise that during freshman orientation. We love it when people sign up for it, it is completely free like every service provide. If you haven't already, download that app. When you download it, it personalizes to UT Tyler. It will be orange and called patriot guardian. Once you download it, it is the same as the RAVE guardian. Great question as well.

**Senator Chin:** I was wondering if yall do any work to protect minority students? Including LGBTQ+ students? I have had people tell me, you know im not entirely sure what the police department is doing to protect me as a minority. I was wondering if yall do any outreach or protection for these people.

**Chief of Police Medders:** We haven't had a whole lot of issues brought to our attention, most of those issues are taken to the title 9 office. What happens is, a maximum report will be created anytime there's any type of situation involving a student regarding you know nay type of misconduct or any type of discrimination or whatever it may be so those reports will actually come through. But generally those are handled by the title 9 office, unless there is a criminal offense that has been committed. Obviously, if there has been a criminal offense, it will be referred to us. I think the biggest thing I can say, the PD we are concerned about all the issues students are concerned with and when you come to us about an issues, such as that, if it is not criminal related, we are going to make sure we get you in touch with the right people on campus who can most effectively deal with that issues. A lot can come out of that, if a student feels like they have been targeted because of their orientation or race, or whatever it may be, then if later the person who they complained on retaliates against them, now it has crossed over into criminal activity. We would pick that up and if a student were wanting to pursue criminal charges, we would make sure those charges were filed through the DA office. We are always in a position where we are listening and if we cant handle the issue most effectively ourselves, then we'll refer it to the title 9 or the other appropriate human resources if it is involved with an employee. We will refer it to the proper office and stay in tuned with the progress with that case and make sure it does not cross over to the criminal realm.

**President Jennings:** Lastly, I just wanted to say I saw the event where one of the officers taught the basketball team how to change a tire. I thought that was awesome, in my opinion I think you guys should do more things like that to create a positive interaction and potentially make a connection with a student who would not have come otherwise. So, kudos for you guys doing that, I hope we see more. We appreciate the time you took to come answer our questions and we would love to hear from yall.

**Chief of Police:** And I will just speak on that, I think that is a great program. I grew up in a different time, I graduated HS in 1984. Back then, everyone knew how to change a tire but we found out that students do a lot of things that we did not do back then. We didn't have computers or anything like that so a lot of times, student so you get those basic skills that you might need on the highway. That is why we started putting out those classes and they were very well received but on classes in general, I don't even like talking about active shooter but it is something that we have to talk about because it is a reality. Campuses across the world, we'll put on a presentation for SGA, for any group who requests it, whether it be changing a tire or how to keep yourself safe during an active shooter. That is what we are here for, we are here for you so we would like for yall to reach out more to us and request what it is and we'll make sure we get those classes put on for you. That is not a problem. Again that is how we most effectively do our job, working with students and with the course of that, we'll probably learn something about technology we didn't know and you'll learn how to change a tire. Thank y'all and anytime y'all want to have a police present at one of these meetings to answer questions, we'll be happy to send someone. I will go ahead and leave now, and I will follow up on those questions, and I look forward to working with you in the future.

## **VI. Officer Reports**

### **a. President Jennings**

As you guys know, last week was crazy, we had lots of events and it was a lot of fun. In addition to that, I had a lot of meetings. We have been working on getting the ballot ready, that is out, so if you have not already voted on that, go ahead. Make sure you are sending out the information, we have lots of posts on social media that you can just share to your story. We want to make sure the awareness is there for that. It has just been a crazy week, I am glad to have all those events in the rear view mirror.

### **b. Vice-President Stavinoha**

Like KC said, lots of events last week. Not a one of them could have gone as well as they did without you guys, so big thank you to everybody. Houston campus, we are working on trying to get something put together for you guys because we had a great time here on the main campus and we want to be able to do something similar for yall. The rest of my report is in committee.

### **c. Secretary Mattern**

I really have just been working on updating the website, thank you Josh you are the best for helping me. I have told a lot of people about the ballot, make sure you are telling as many people as possible but don't tell them your opinion. Actually you can, but you cannot tell them that SGA as an organization has an opinion.

### **d. Treasurer Limbrick**

I don't really have nothing to report for treasurer wise. Most of it is for SGAC about what we funded.

### **e. Chief of Staff Smith**

I do not have a whole lot to report, most of what I have been doing will be discussed later today. Next week, I might also try to introduce some changes to the constitution, or whenever we meet next. Maybe it will be two weeks from now. Other than that, that is all I have.

## **VII. Committee Reports**

### **a. Events**

**VP Stavinoha:** For events, we are working on finals week bags, that is going to be our next thing. Primarily what needs to happen is ordering the candy or the stores kits. Just based on pricing. And then, once we get those ordered, I will be sending out times to make the bags, put them together, we usually do a fun pencil and eraser thing, tabling times.

**Chief of Staff Smith:** What about fidget toys.

**Vice President Stavinoha:** You know, that isn't a bad idea. We are going to be planning a little get together at the end of the semester because it will also be the end of an SGA careers. I will be needing help with tabling to pass them out before finals week. That is where we are at, the next big thing.

### **b. Communications**

**Secretary Mattern:** It was just me and Valerie this week, if you guys signed up, please come I feel like we're really fun to talk to, maybe not I don't know. We were just talking about posts, and getting information out about the ballot. Even if you are not in communications committee, I feel like it is easy to share a post or tell someone to vote, but don't tell them your opinion.

### **c. SGAC**

**Treasurer Limbrick:** We approved 3 people last Thursday. Had a little bit of confusion on one of them but we got it sorted out. We approved ASME who is here in Houston, ASHRAE, BSA, they are a joint group with ISA. Before the end of the semester, I need to get together and go through the submissions because the groups are supposed to submit how the event went just to show appreciation.

**d. Rules**

**Chief of Staff Smith:** Like I said earlier, most of what we have been working on will be discussed later. But I also would just like to encourage everyone, if you see something that you might want changed in the constitution or an idea, come talk to me because we are just looking over it right now.

**e. ESC**

**Senator Harrison:** We did not meet this week because I am not caught up on emails. But I am going to reach out to a group of people here in Tyler. Another thing, Saturday is arbor day, go plant a tree. I will not be available and it isn't officially our event, but I feel like we should advertise it.

**f. GSA**

**President Jennings:** We do not meet as frequently as others because it is just an opportunity to meet me, I am going to the HSC next week. It got postponed but Wednesday at 12 next week. It is November 10th if anyone would like to join me, let me know, it could be fun. We are going take a brief tour, chat with some students. No money being spent it is going to be pretty informal. Primarily planning ways we can potentially help facilitate interactive programming for the students. Like I said last week, they have be online or hybrid for awhile now, they still aren't in person. There has been a significant desire to have some in-person and just mingling opportunities. We are going to work to facilitate that.

**VIII. Student Voice Reports**

**a. College of Arts and Sciences**

**Senator Harrison:** I don't really have any to report right now. Everyone is stressed out about Eric Lopez.

**President Jennings:** I saw an article about the chairs in the CAS building, do you guys have thoughts on that?  
Senator: They're annoying.

**Senator Dix:** The only things I wanted to touch on is issues with advising. I haven't really heard of anyone having issues, but I am currently having issues so I can imagine others are. I just found out who my new advisor is.

**Senator Chawner:** I was just going to say December is the first time you can get an appointment. I did see something about you can do it through email, but it did not make sense to do it through email. I had Vardeman and I have not been told since he left who our new advisor is. I don't know if other people don't know who to email.

**Senator Harrison:** I was somewhat confused about advising because I am graduating in a few months but I got an email from Millett saying I needed to meet with and I do not need it.

**Vice President Stavinoha:** Do you guys have a hard time getting ahold of the career success advisor? Does she work on campus? I have been to her office and it is empty. She does not email back, can't get ahold of her on handshake, I cannot get a solid idea if she exists or not. If anyone has a way to get in contact with her, please let me know.

**Secretary Mattern:** Okay, are advisors directly in relationships with myuttyler with the holds? Because I have a transfer credit hold that they have not taken off.

**President Jennings:** Is it a transient hold? That doesn't go away. You're fine. I worked in the one-stop a little over a year, so I can answer most questions, that one doesn't go away it is just a formal notification. Any other questions about that before we move on.

**b. College of Business**

**Senator Bennett:** I met with the COB ambassadors earlier today and they expressed deep interest in coordinating with some things with us. I do not know exactly what it is, but I believe in the near future, I think they will want to be doing some joint stuff and work with us. They are also looking for more ambassadors, so if you are in the COB and you are interested in becoming more active, I am not exactly sure where to go for the application, but you can go talk to Winslow Caunigh. Go talk to him and get good access.

**Senator Scott:** We also had our student forum today. I was not able to go because I had class. They sent out emails with little flyers, but it was essentially, if you have any problems with the COB, they sit down and talk about them.

**Senator Govea:** Yeah, I got us connected the student forum at an event I was helping host two weeks back. Dr. Berge was there and was like I would to see SGA representation there. We tried our best to get out, unfortunately I got sick and Brandon had class, so Robert was the only one to attend. From what Robert said, it was very

successful. Student facing, everyone is getting hit hard with exams again and again. It is odd that we're past the midterms and still getting them. I also have online classes after thanksgiving break, two of them.

### **c. Patriot Village**

**Senator Arnold:** We got off of our recycling bins which is great and is being passed out, one student said it was already filled up. Good job to ESC and David on that one. I had a meeting with Christian yesterday because I'm going to host a meeting for the residents because I would like to create a google form for them to submit concerns to me since I'm not able to talk to every student as much as I would like to. That is all.

**Senator McNamara:** I don't know if you can answer this because you are not an RA, but I know that the people downstairs from us submitted a complaint that we were walking too loud. Is that valid? Like is that a real thing?

**Senator Arnold:** I will say that you can submit a complaint about anything. We got a complaint last year, and no one was even home.

**Senator McNamara:** So what do we do about that because our RA said it was just a warning, do we just tiptoe.

**President Jennings:** Just do your best Val, don't wear high heels.

## **IX. Old Business**

### **a. Advising Committee**

**President Jennings:** I would like to entertain a motion to open up discussion on the advising Taskforce.

**Senator Harrison:** Carried said motion.

**Senator Bennett:** Motion seconded.

**President Jennings:** Like I said, this taskforce, we already voted into existence, but it does not currently have members. My goal is to have one person from each college, so if you guys will chat with your team and let me know by Friday who would like to represent that. Preferably someone who will not graduate this semester. Majority of that will happen in the spring. Anyways this if your notice, please talk amongst yourselves. Housing this does not pertain to yall, if you would like a seat at the table, let me know, but primarily from academic colleges and 2 from student body at large. I entertain a motion to close discussion on that.

**Chief of Staff Smith:** Carried said motion.

**Senator Vargas:** Motion seconded.

## **X. New Business**

### **a. Appointment of New Senators**

**President Jennings:** I do not see Macy here. We do have Soren here. I would like to entertain a motion to discuss the appointment of a new senator.

**Chief of Staff Smith:** Carried said motion.

**Senator Bennett:** Motion Seconded.

**President Jennings:** We have Soren Peters here, he is a student in the honors program and is a history major. So, Soren is interested in becoming a senator, you guys are familiar with the process. He will get a brief time to introduce himself, you will get to ask questions and then we will vote.

**Soren Peters:** So, my name is Soren Peters, I am freshman history major and I would like to become a senator so that I can advocate on the interest of all students. I have always had an interest in public policy and I feel that becoming a senator, I could participate in the public service that sea provides to the student body at large. I also feel that by communicating the problems, I would be able to contribute to the positive change over the next 4 years of my time and give something back to the school. This is just something I have wanted to do and I feel like becoming a senator would give me a chance to do that.

**Senator Bennett:** What would you be a senator for?

**Soren Peters:** Student body at large.

**Senator Harrison:** What do you want to do after you graduate? I know you're a freshman so you have plenty of time but any ideas?

**Soren Peters:** I know I plan to go to law school.

**Senator Govea:** What is your strongest skill?

**Soren Peters:** I think I am good at studying. That is something I have tried to work on. Just being able to read and code stuff.

**Secretary Mattern:** Are there any problems within the honors program that you could bring to our attention?

**Soren Peters:** The honors program will have 65 students next year instead of 40, we are growing. It is a good problem to have, it is growing fast. That has brought up problems with not having enough mentors for the new students coming in, not having enough people to do interviews. Those are just some problems, which are essentially good problems to have. That is all that I can think of though, I'm not probably the person, there's other that know.

**Senator Vargas:** As a freshman, why did you pick UT Tyler?

**Soren Peters:** So, its going to sound stupid but my girlfriend is going here. I am not from here at all. I love everything here, I think I was meant to be here.

**Senator Chin:** I guess I have a question and a half now. My original question was what was you favorite historical era? But this is a very personal question, you do not have to answer this, but are you still with the girl?

**Soren Peters:** Yes I am. So, what interests me in history is World War One history. I love the histories of religions around the world. Development of religions around the world and world war 1 history.

**President Jennings:** Going forward, serious questions. I feel very embarrassed. He seems nice, he came to the townhall to see what SGA is about.

**Chief of Staff Smith:** I like him.

**Vice President Stavinoha:** We have had a great experience from senators in the honors program.

**Senator Ruiz:** I will say es to him just because he is still a freshman, he is developing into the organizations and he can get a broad picture of what can be done in 4 years.

**President Jennings:** I would like to entertain a motion to approve Soren Peters as a senator for the student body at large.

**Chief of Staff Smith:** carried said motion

**Senator Bennett:** Motion seconded.

**Let the record show that the senate unanimously voted to approve Soren Peters for Senator of Student Body at Large.**

**President Jennings:** I would like to entertain a motion to close discussion on this topic.

**Vice President Stavinoha:** Carried said motion.

**Senator Bennett:** Motion seconded.

#### **b. Discussion of Constitution Ideas**

**President Jennings:** I would like to entertain a motion to discuss constitution ideas.

**Senator Chin:** Carried said motion.

**Senator Vargas:** Motion seconded.

**Chief of Staff Smith:** So, y'all remember we voted on to make the ESC a standing committee, and we rote in the language, voted and I sent it to vice president Tolliver, and she sent back a suggestion and said we needed to make the 3rd point include the satellite campuses. The red part is the change that we made, at first it just said the city of Tyler recycling, and this that we put in here helps future-proof it incase the ut Tyler system decides to add more satellite campuses. So if y'all are willing to vote yes on this, it will be sent back to ONA and she will be able to approve it and it will be able to be put on the SGA website. This is what I propose to change it to. I would also like to talk about a few ideas we have discussed in committee. One of the primary things I would like to do is to start getting the judicial board more active. From what I know, they do not get and I do not think they need to meet as frequently as like committees, I think they should meet maybe once a month. I would also like to include, since they review any cases or controversy, I would like to establish in writing some sort of requirement of them to write down their decisions and opinions. Like s share file. That way future judicial boards who have similar cases can see. I think that is a very prudent change to make, and easy as well. There is other ideas, I don't wish to, in my opinion, to include all the ideas in one huge vote, some of it would get knocked out and it would kill the whole vote. With that being said, I would like to open up discussion on said changes on a vote for approval.

**President Jennings:** You're referring to specifically this change?

**Chief of Staff Smith:** yes, not the judicial board change. I will present changes regarding the judicial board and maybe additional changes next week.

**Secretary Mattern:** Motion seconded.

**Let the record show the changes were unanimously voted in approval with 2 abstains, Chief of Staff Smith and Senator Bennett.**

**President Jennings:** I would like to entertain a motion to close discussion on this topic.

**VP Stavinoha:** Carried said motion.

**Motion seconded by basically everyone in the room.**

**Senator Scott:** What I wanted to bring up was the email sent out by housing by the possibility of charging. Motion to open discussion on the email sent out by housing.

**Senator Bennett:** Motion seconded.

**Advisor Neaves:** Before we open discussion on that, there may be another email that will be sent out within the hour or first thing in the morning with additional information or a different decision about who to talk to. You can talk to Dean Petite, he is more than happy to answer questions specifically about the mail sent out. But he is working with housing about the email sent out and correct it.

**Vice President Stavinoha:** Given the new information that is coming out regarding the new email that is being sent out, and the fact that Dean Petite will be here next meeting, I would like to motion to table this discussion for next meeting and have furthered information.

**Senator vargas:** Motion Seconded.

**President Jennings:** I would like to entertain a motion to discuss a diversity course on campus.

**Vice President Stavinoha:** Carried said motion.

**Senator Bennett:** Motion seconded.

**President Jennings:** As you guys know, Ashlyn and I are the UTSSAC representatives for UT Tyler, one thing that the committee worked on last year, was the access for UT System schools to a diversity education course, think like the alcohol course and title 9. Very similar, it already exists, but it is not required in any capacity. I was wondering what you guys thought about potentially looking at the course and determining whether it would be beneficial for freshman or all grades, whatever you guys feel is appropriate but I definitely, personally prefer to review it before making that decisions. I just wanted your opinion, it is very similar to the alcohol and title 9 training required for freshman.

**Senator McNamra:** We have to do that for greek life, I don't see any harm in adding it. Either way, I know that taking that course, I have learned things about micro aggressions that I did not know before. I do not see any harm.

**Vice President Stavinoha:** It can't be harmful, I would love to review the material before we say yes, we should require this or expect it of the entire student body. We don't throw educational courses at students before at least looking at them. But I do not see any harm in at least looking at it or seeing if we can find a better one.

**President Jennings:** each school does a different one, some implement it for different grades, some implement it for freshmen only. There is a variety of techniques.

**Senator Harrison:** I agree with Jennifer on that, it could not do any harm unless it was just not effective. I know I have taken a course similar to diversity but it fell flat on its face, it just wasn't effective at all. I think we need to review it and make sure it knows what it is talking about and it will achieve its goals.

**Senator Bennett:** Would it be possible to bring in someone and show us what the course would look like?

**President Jennings:** Like I said, the course already exists, so we could just ask for permission to view the course so that we can review it on our own time. Since it is only just offered and not put out there, I had not heard about it, it is currently available, one of the options is just have them advertise it. That is something as well.

**Senator Harrison:** Something this past Spring got sent out, and I think it was primarily related to title 9 and sexual assault. Would it be anywhere similar to that?

**President Jennings:** Different content.

**VP Stavinoha:** Could you send out the information on how to access it now so that if we decided to go ahead and access on our own?

**President Jennings:** I will have to get it, but yes.

**Senator Scott:** Is this the same course that certain positions have to take?

**President Jennings:** I am not sure. Very similar. I would like to entertain a motion to table this discussion until we have had a chance to review this course.

**Senator Gouvea:** Carried said motion.

**Senator Scott:** Motion seconded.

## **XI. Advisor Comments**

- a. So, very good meeting, very productive, it has been awhile since y'all have had a lengthy meeting. Kudos for y'all for addressing several concerns. There was two things that came to mind on the advising issues, if you are not able to get ahold of your advisor, please email advising. They will do their best to try and help you, especially if it is a request that it easy to do. Another issue was the career success coach, they are very busy right now. All of them are, as we get ready for our career success conference which is on thursday. I hope you all attend that event. That is why they are not currently available. They are making sure everything is ready to go with our guest speakers. however, if the coach does not follow up by next week, swing by the career success office and the staff will address it. There are some other things I believe, but if a coach is not available, the main office can still help. The coach are embedded in the colleges to make is more accessible for yall. Sometimes they are not always available but ht email office are on the second floor and they're fantastic to work with. That is all the comments, I do want to share, I am extremely proud of yall. Last week blew my mind when I showed up early at midnight breakfast, I get out of bed, I was shocked to walk in and see that many volunteers ready to rock and roll, it is the largest midnight breakfast y'all have ever hosted. Kudos for yall, it continuous to be one of the largest events that is

student ran. Y'all are helping bring back student engagement here, especially after last year. I twas a lot of fun, everyone I spoke with had a blast, the food was good and I look forward to next semester's to see if y'all can beat that record. It is not just midnight breakfast, I saw many of you throughout the week, thank y'all for showing up and being present. Trunk or treat was also the largest we have hosted, we had over 800 individuals that drove there, that does not count the volunteers and the cars. We got some things that we have to fix for next year if we are going to make it bigger. That was awesome, hopefully y'all had fun and we can make it bigger and better next year.

**XII. Announcements**

- a. Arbor Day, November 6<sup>th</sup> 9-11 am

**XIII. Next Week**

- a. College of Engineering
- b. College of Nursing and Health Sciences
- c. Liberty Landing
- d. University Pines

**XIV. Adjournment**

7:15pm

<b>Name</b>	<b>Absence</b>
President Jennings	
Vice President Stavinoha	
Secretary Mattern	
Treasurer Limbrick	
Chief of Staff Smith	
Senator Arnold	
Senator Barria	
Senator Bennett	
Senator Black	
Senator Chawner	
Senator Chin	
Senator Collins	A
Senator Dix	
Senator Dohadwala	
Senator Flores	A
Senator Gouvea	
Senator Govea	
Senator Harris	
Senator Harrison	
Senator Henry	

<b>Name</b>	<b>Absence</b>
Senator Johnson	
Senator Luna	
Senator McGinnis	
Senator McNamara	
Senator McQueary	
Senator Melendez	A
Senator Rojas	
Senator Peters	
Senator Rosario	
Senator Ruiz	
Senator Scott	