



## SGA Meeting Minutes – December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

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### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by President Sahil Tonk.

### Officer Updates

- **President – Sahil Tonk**
  - Two pieces of legislation sent via email were presented for voting later in the meeting.
  - Noted that legislative output is currently behind compared to previous years.
  - Encouraged senators to work on and submit legislation ideas as soon as possible to avoid a backlog next semester.
  - A review of current legislation proposals will be conducted at the end of the meeting.
- **Vice President of Operations – James McGowan**
  - Reiterated that Operations is available to help start or problem-solve legislation.
  - Reminded Senators of the requirement to obtain 30 points, participate in one congratulatory legislation, and one action/project legislation by April.
  - Senators who fulfill these requirements do not have to rerun for their position.
- **Vice President of Communications – Bennett Schackmuth**
  - "Senator of the Semester" voting opens today and runs until the end of the year.
  - Senators are encouraged to nominate peers or themselves who embody TTUHSC values.
- **Vice President of Finance – Alexander Hayek**
  - Reminded members to encourage organizations to apply for the Special Projects Fund (SPF).
  - T-shirt sales are officially open.

### Committee Updates

- **Community Service – Chair: Kayla Martinez**
  - "Care Across the Bend" project initiated with boxes placed in the Lubbock Library and Synergistic Center.
  - Due to shipping issues, physical boxes are only in Lubbock, but an Amazon Wishlist is available for distant senators to donate winter clothing (beanies, gloves, jackets).
  - Donations do not count for community service points.
  - December opportunities will be posted in Discord, and planning for a shoe drive begins in January.
- **Operations – Chair: Amber Jones**
  - Reiterated availability for one-on-one meetings to help senators comfortable with drafting legislation.
- **Scholarship – Chair: Suha Garasia**

- T-shirt sales are live (\$18, three colors) via the QR code provided; ordering closes December 17th at 5:00 PM.
- Phonathon Scholarship applications are due this Saturday at 11:59 PM.
- Give-back nights are being coordinated.
- **Finance – Chair: Ryan McWilliams**
  - Budget training meeting scheduled with Keri for December 16th.
  - No new SPF requests received.
- **Public Relations – Chair: Sarah Neal Secrest**
  - Seeking one senator from Abilene, Amarillo, and Dallas to provide a specific picture.
  - An Instagram giveaway starts tomorrow offering pizza for a winner and their study group.
- **Social – Chair: Annaliese Schultz**
  - Planning has started for the end-of-year banquet to be held Sunday, April 26th.

## Legislation Overview

- **Senate Resolution 25.17: Cooper Institute Partnership**
  - A resolution regarding the establishment of a university-wide research program/partnership with the newly acquired Cooper Institute.
  - Discussion: Senator Jake Quintanilla raised concerns regarding coordination with the Office of Research and Innovation and the timeline for reviewing the document.
  - Vote: Motion to table for further research/edits made by Jake Quintanilla and seconded by Avantika Mallik. **Legislation Tabled.**
- **Senate Resolution 25.18: Congratulatory Legislation for Dr. Butterbaugh**
  - A congratulatory piece for Dr. Addie Butterbaugh on her promotion to Program Director of the PA Studies program in Midland.
  - Vote: **Passed.**

## Open Forum – Legislative Proposals

- **Jennifer Martinez – Senators and Subs Feedback**
  - *Issue:* Requests for improved materials (forks, creamer) and extending library hours.
  - *Discussion:* Keri Shiplet suggested handling this as a project to research possibilities.
- **Ryan McWilliams – Distance Class Structure**
  - *Issue:* Distance nursing master's students expressed frustration with class structure, specifically delayed grades and assignment changes.
  - *Discussion:* Advised to speak with the school/program coordinator first; legislation can elevate the issue if it remains unresolved.
- **Faiad Alam – First-Gen Celebration**
  - *Proposal:* Legislation to commemorate the First-Gen celebration and ensure its continuation and expansion in future years.
  - *Discussion:* Keri Shiplet noted similar past legislation exists to model after.
- **Steven Daley – Financial Aid & Education**
  - *Proposal:* Address outdated cost of attendance estimates (not updated in ~4 years) and increase focus on financial education (contract negotiation/loan management).
  - *Discussion:* President Tonk suggested splitting this into two separate pieces of legislation. Keri Shiplet noted grant funding issues for financial literacy but encouraged legislation to show student interest.

- **Caleb Martin – Physical Therapy Treatment Tables**
  - *Proposal:* Project to get 2-3 treatment tables placed in the library study area because labs close at 5:00 PM.
  - *Discussion:* Jordan Bishop (Athletic Training) agreed with the issue of room access. Keri Shiplet suggested this start as a project/request.
- **Brianna Harris – Congratulatory Legislation**
  - *Proposal:* Congratulatory legislation for Dr. Kate Panassi for accepting the Distinguished Fellow in the National Academies of Practice.

## Post Open Forum

### Legislation Status Check

- **Satellite Tuition/Resources (Adele Wilson):** Postponed to next semester.
- **Speech Pathology Pinning:** TBD/Communication needed in group chat.
- **Dr. Zach Sneed:** Missing chat group; President Tonk will create one.
- **Dry Lab Models (Ty Kaatz):** Project nearly complete; resource created and needs final check.

## Announcements

- **Keri Shiplet:**
  - For specific campus requests (e.g., silverware in Abilene), contact Keri to find the right person to talk to.
  - **Phonathon Scholarship:** Deadline is next Monday.
  - **Student Org Training:** Required re-registration/budget training for Presidents and Treasurers is coming up.
  - **T-Shirt Pickup:** Orders close on the 17th; pickup will be arranged on campuses once arrived (or mailed for a fee).
- **President Sahil Tonk:**
  - **Schedule:** This marks the halfway point of the SGA year.
  - **Next Meeting:** January 20th.
  - Senators should work on legislation over the break and send speaker suggestions for the spring semester.

## Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn made by Sydney Ubando seconded by Steven Daley. Meeting adjourned at 6:49 PM.